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[Written for the Dollar Newspaper.—Philada.]

THE JANUARY THAW.

BY WM. G. MEACHEM, M. D.

The herald breath of spring is on the lea,
Hope flushes the cold, gray canopy,
The snowy hillsides trickle ever down,
Weeping away the load of grief they own;
The streamlets' icy fetters, link by link,
Rived by a secret power from either brink,
A giant hand, wielding a noiseless blow,
Go lapsing down the widening future flow,
Dissolved to memories. Drinking the tears
The hillsides shed, weeping away their cares.
The uproarious torrents thunder on their way,
Stentorophonic shout, "We're free! We're free!"
The early smiling valleys deem it spring,
And doff their cumbrous, snowy covering,
And bare their tender bosoms to the gales
The panting equatorial exhales.
The flocks and herds, long sheltered from the blast,
Rushing a bristly cohort, madly past,
Now crop the straitened bounty of the field,
And drink the joy the mellowing heavens yield.
Blithe, merry-hearted childhood feels the power,
The electric influence of the sunny hour.
It rises timelier to greet the dawn,
And plays more antics on the snow-stripped lawn.
The generous youth is stirred with newer life,
And braver struggles in the wearying strife.
Old age, too, feels the soothing in the air,
And holds with calmer hand its onerous care.
And e'en a fly, of all the myriad swarms
Beating the summer air with winged arms
A solitary relic, quickens now
Within the hiding-place no searchings show,
And, with a sluggish step and lazy wing,
Creeps up the wall and goes a murmuring.
But balmy days in winter soon have end,
Just as few pleasures on old age attend.
The icy spirit of the season gray,
Strengthened by rest, again asserts its sway.
He breathes a boreal mandate o'er the earth,
Strangling each hope of summer in its birth.

Warsaw, N. Y.

[Written for the Dollar Newspaper—Philada.]

THE CHILD'S DREAM OF THE STAR.

BY DELFRA.

A rosy child lay in his trundle bed,
As the star-beams played with his curly head,
And gazed at the gems of the sky;
Then thought of a little sister that died,
And fled to the land where pure spirits abide—
The realm of the fadeless, on high.

And, as he thought of his own lovely *star*,
The Angel of Sleep threw dust from his car,
And closed, in sweet slumber, his eyes:
The cherub then roamed through the land o dreams,
Where ev'rything real, not mystical, seems,
Concealed in a cloak of disguise.

He dreamed—of the stars that spangle the blue
And render the heavens gorgeous to view,
The brightest was Ella, that died.
That one was most fulgent to him at night
Whose form was encircled with heavenly light,
And beckoned him up to her side.

He stretched up his arms to the far-off prize,
As if he had met her in glad surprise,
With the cumulant love of years;
But as soon as he touched the form of light,
The beautiful object evanished from sight,
And the little one woke in tears.

Brunswick, Ill.

OUR ORIGINAL NOVELETTE.

"LINDEN HALL."

WRITTEN FOR THE DOLLAR NEWSPAPER—PHILADA.

BY M. A. EDWARDS.

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[CONTINUED.]

CHAPTER XXI.

The little steamboat went puffing on its way out of Boston harbor. I strained my gaze to catch the last glimpse of the wharf, where I had parted from my friends, but it was lost in the long line of dark coast, which stretched along the horizon. I sighed as I turned to descend into the ladies' saloon, for the reflection forced itself upon me that I was again alone. There was something in the sound of that word that drove my heart in to feed upon itself, and, changing my mind, I remained on deck, although the air was raw and cold, and the prospect rather gloomy than otherwise. The day seemed suddenly to have fallen into night, without any intervening twilight to soften the transition. In the west, the moon was slowly struggling through a heavy bank of clouds, occasionally showing the bright tip of a horn above the ragged edges, and throwing a feeble light over the waters, which elsewhere appeared of an inky blackness. A few stars gleamed forth in little patches of blue sky, which were frequently obscured by the wild clouds which rolled over them. Even the steamboat had, to my excited fancy, something awful and gloomy about it as it moved on its mysterious course, uttering at intervals a short, impatient groan, like some huge monster, greedy for its prey. I leaned over the railing and watched the waves as they parted before the prow, or rolled away on either side, the foam curling over them, its white light gleaming strangely amid the leaden gloom of night.

"A bad-looking night, Miss," said a voice near me.

The speaker was a coarse, heavy man, with a drab coat, buttoned tight up to his chin, and a small cap, pulled down over his ears.

"Do you think there is danger of a storm?" I inquired, for the first time thinking of the possibility of such an event.

"We shall have a gale before morning, I guess," said the man, looking up at the angry sky. "If we have a hard blow, there is no chance for us."

"Why," said I, rather tremulously, "do you think the storm will be so severe?"

"Very likely, and this is an old, leaky boat, and wont bear much handling. The company ought to be prosecuted for running such a boat on the line."

The question arose in my mind, why trust yourself in it? But it lingered there only a minute, and I changed it into the remark: "I understood that this was the best on the line."

"All humbug," said the stout man. "They always say the same thing about every boat that is just ready to leave the wharf. If we have a storm, I would not give a pin for our necks to-night. You have never travelled much, I guess?"

"I was never on the water before," I replied. And I inwardly added, "I wish I was on shore now."

"Do you live in Boston?" said the stout man.

"No!" I replied, rather shortly, for I never admired the agreeable custom which prevails all over our free and happy country of catechizing strangers.

"Near it, maybe?"

"Not very."

"From somewhere in Massachusetts, I guess?"

"Sydney," I replied, finding he was determined I should tell him.

"Travelling alone?" was his next inquiry.

"Yes," I replied, and was tempted to add, "I should like to be left alone."

I turned to leave the deck. "I only meant," said the stout man, kindly, "that I and my wife will look after you a little if you feel lonesome. It must be hard for a young girl like you to make your way along, and as I am used to travelling, I'll take care of you."

"I will relieve you of the charge," said a gentleman, advancing to the spot where we stood, "and take this young lady under my protection."

It had now become so dark that I could not distinguish the features of the new comer, but *that voice!* How it thrilled through every fibre of my heart! It awakened in me such a tide of feeling I was unable to speak.

"I forgot, Miss M'Cloud," said the gentleman, "that you would scarcely be able to discover even an old friend in this darkness."

"Mr. Meredith!" I exclaimed.

"And you accept my offered protection?" he whispered, as he drew my arm within his own.

"Most gladly."

I turned to thank my stout friend for his kindness, for such I felt it to be, though offered in a rough way, but he said, good-humoredly: "I did nothing to be thanked for, Miss, and I am glad you have found a friend to take care of you. Mighty lucky, I can tell you; but when the gale comes on, don't forget your life preserver." And, with this ominous piece of advice, my stout friend walked away.

"Miss M'Cloud," said Allan, "as you seem to have a romantic turn to-night, I suppose you still prefer this wild-looking scene to the comforts and elegancies of the ladies' cabin."

"I do, unless you wish to return there."

"Such thoughts be far from me," he said, laughing. "There are no less than five babies there, all crying, and nurses talking baby-talk; and an army of women talking nonsense still worse, in an atmosphere heated to ninety degrees, and redolent of coal gas. I sat there patiently for a time, looking for you in vain, when it suddenly occurred to me that you were blessed with common sense—enough of it at least to keep out of that place as long as you could enjoy the cool air."

"I thank you for your flattering opinion, but you surely could never have expected to find me on board?"

"Indeed! I can assure you I should have thought it very strange treatment if I had not, after I had made the hack driver almost kill his horses in order that I might take this very boat, because I knew you expected to leave in it, and, after all, I only arrived in time to jump on at the last moment, when she had pushed off from the wharf."

"You are very, very kind."

"To myself, I grant. It would have been a grievous disappointment to me to lose this pleasure."

"But I do not understand how you happened to be so well informed in regard to my proceedings."

"Did not Kate write to you that I was to meet you in Boston?"

"No, she made not the slightest allusion to such a possibility."

"Had I known that," replied Allan, gravely, "I should never have intruded myself upon you in the manner I did. I will explain to you how it has happened. I have been passing the summer at the White Mountains, and a few days since I received a letter from Kate, in which she mentioned that you were expected to spend the winter in Philadelphia, and would leave Boston to-day. She assured me she had written, making arrangements for you to travel under my protection. I was only too happy to accept the charge. I hope I did not offend you by my abruptness."

"I was too glad to see an old friend," I replied, "to be offended at the suddenness of his appearance, particularly as he came upon such a charitable errand."

"This is a wild and gloomy prospect," said Allan, looking around on the waste of waters and the dreary sky. "Do you like it?"

"I did enjoy it for a time, but now I am afraid of a storm;" and I related my conversation with the stout man.

He laughed gaily, as he said: "I doubt whether there will be a storm. Your friend is one of those persons who always look upon the dark side of the picture, and who is fond of telling disagreeable things; though I doubt not he is a very kind man in his way."

"But I have noticed, since I have been sitting here, a moaning sound in the water, and I have ever heard that was an omen of wo."

"Still dreamy and superstitious, Miss M'Cloud."

"Indeed, Mr. Meredith, I am not superstitious. You surely do not think I really believe in omens."

"You would like to believe as your reason tells you, but fancy often gains the victory—but you are trembling now with the cold. I see very plainly that we shall be obliged to make a descent into warmer regions."

"Oh, no! I like it up here much better. It is so still and quiet."

"But you know Kate put you under my charge, and my orders, consequently, must be obeyed."

I found the saloon fully as noisy and crowded as Allan had described it. The stout man was there in all his glory. He had succeeded in frightening several ladies into hysterics, and had wound up the feelings of all to the highest pitch of alarm. Why is it that the anticipation of danger produces an outward, noisy manifestation of terror, while the danger itself, when it really comes, causes every one to be hushed and still? Even while this Babel of confusion was at its height, the storm burst upon us. The shrieking, and roaring, and wailing of the wind rose high above every sound in the cabin, and in a moment all was quiet. No one spoke or moved, while we listened to the hoarse cries of the blast, the hurried tramping of feet upon deck, and the creaking and groaning of the boat as it pitched and rolled through the heavy sea. The silence lasted but a few minutes, however, and the stout man broke the spell by exclaiming, as he rushed into his stateroom: "Now is the time for your life preservers."

Just at this juncture, the captain appeared. He begged the ladies not to be alarmed, assuring them that, although a sudden and violent storm had arisen, it would soon be over, and he felt certain that the boat would weather the storm without any serious damage. He might as well have expostulated with the wind. I do not think any one heard him but Allan and myself. Everybody had made a simultaneous rush for life-preservers. Sometimes two or three had hold of the same one, pulling at it most vigorously, while others had three or four tied around them. The shrieks and cries drowned the voice of the storm. Some were on their knees, some shaking hands all round and crying, some hunting up their friends, and others securing their valuables about them. The life-preservers in use at that time had to be filled with air before putting them on, and more breath was wasted in this process than would have been necessary to turn a windmill.

"I've lost my breath! I've lost my breath!" gasped a fat woman, eyeing ruefully her half-inflated preserver.

"This is the way, ma'am," said the stout man, puffing like a porpoise. "Why, Martha," he exclaimed, "you should not have tied the life-preserver around your ankles!"

"I wanted to keep as dry as I could," said his wife.

"Who will help me to save my papers? my valuable papers?" said an honorable member of Congress, as he dragged a trunk out of his state-room. No one volunteering, the honorable gentleman sat down on his trunk in blank dismay.

"Wont nobody ring the bells, or fire the guns, or send up rockets, or do something?" said a young lady, in a die-away tone.

"Jerry, my dear, where are you?" said an affectionate wife.

"Here, my love; I am safe," said a faint voice from under the piano.

"Well, take care of your purse. We may be picked up."

"We shall be blown to pieces!"

"The boat is on fire!"

"The boiler is bursting!"

"To die such a death, and be so mangled that your best friends wont know you!"

"The sharks! the sharks!"

Such were some of the exclamations, mingled with the cries of the five little babies who, all aroused from their slumbers, added to the noise and confusion.

"Mr. Meredith," I exclaimed, "is there no place I can flee to? I shall be frantic if I remain here!"

"Will you be afraid to go on the side deck?"

"O, no! anywhere rather than here!"

Wrapping me closely in the folds of a large blanket shawl, he led me out on the side deck, where the fresh air revived me. There was a momentary lull in the tempest, which seemed, however, only to rest in order to regain strength to renew the combat, when it burst forth in tenfold more fury.

"How very terrible!" I exclaimed, trembling.

"And how very sublime!" added Allan. "I never witnessed anything more magnificent."

The sea, which, a short time before, I had seen so dark and calm, now tossed its huge mountainous billows all around us. I watched one approach the spot where we were standing. It looked like the steep and jagged sides of a mighty precipice tottering at its base, and about to crush us in its ruin. One moment it trembled as if irresolute, and then, with a sullen roar, it plunged beneath the bows of the boat, curling over in a foamy mass, and flinging the spray far above our heads. Another and another followed in such quick succession that I feared our frail bark would be overwhelmed, but the gallant little boat leaped from wave to wave, as if it were in sport. The rattling of the boat-chains; the straining of the ropes; the noise of the steam; the hurried voices of the men on deck; and the shrieks of the women below; added to the howling of the winds and roaring of the waves, were enough to strike terror into a heart as timid as mine, and as inexperienced in such scenes. I grew faint with terror.

"Oh!" I cried, "we shall all be lost! What a dreadful death!"

Unconsciously I drew nearer to Allan, when suddenly I found myself clasped to his heart.

"Serena," he said, "in this hour of danger, and it may be of death, let there be no reserve between us. You know that I love you. Will you not let me call you mine—my own?"

I made no answer, but I did not withdraw from his embrace.

"I am satisfied," he said. "My Serena! my own peerless love."

He wrapped me more closely in his arms; he smoothed my damp hair, and kissed my cold cheek; and ever whispered in my ear the most tender words of love. I said nothing, but I lay with closed eyes, more happy than ever before in my life. I no longer heard the howling of the wind—it was drowned in Allan's whispered words.

But soon another sound mingled with the storm. A deep, regular booming noise was borne upon the wind. It seemed like the heavy firing of a distant cannon.

"That is the surf beating upon the rocks," said Allan, anxiously. "I hope we are not driving upon the shore."

"Our doom is sealed, Allan," I cried, "and I must lose you thus, when I have yearned for you so long in vain."

"We will part no more," said he. "Living or dying, my beloved, I am thine, henceforth and forever."

"May God, in his mercy, save us both!" I murmured.

"Look, my Serena! Your prayer is already answered!"

As he spoke, the boat gave a sudden lurch, then stopped. I looked around. The wild clouds were hurrying away, leaving the blue sky behind them. The sea was even now subsiding, and the wind seemed to be shrieking far away in the distance. The storm had passed.

Long we sat there, holding such sweet communion as only two hearts that have united after a long separation can understand.

And sweet were my dreams that night as, rocked on the bosom of the ocean, I slept calmly and peacefully after the exciting events of the day.

CHAPTER XXII.

The early rays of the morning sun, struggling through the little window of my state-room, aroused me from my slumber; but I lay in a state of quiet happiness, thinking of the joy that had come to me. I was no longer friendless and unprotected, with Allan's strong heart and arm to lean upon; no longer poor while the wealth of his love was all my own.

How true it is that there is no earthly happiness, no matter how exquisite, that has not some drops of bitterness mingled in the cup. Even while my heart was exulting in the fulness of its joy, a painful thought intruded. "What will his mother say?" From Kate's description, I had formed an appalling idea of this lady. I supposed her to be cold, and proud, and supercilious; ready to sacrifice everything to ambition, and I felt certain that she would never approve of her son's marriage with one so poor and unknown as myself. This thought dwelt on my mind all the morning, and when Allan came to conduct me to the breakfast table, his quick eye instantly detected that something was amiss.

"There is a cloud on your brow, Serena," he whispered.

"Not a very heavy one, I trust," said I, smiling.

"It is all sunshine now," he replied.

The reader who has been so courteous as to follow me thus far in these pages will have discovered, long ere this, that I am no heroine. Those interesting individuals are never supposed to possess appetites, and I cannot recall a single instance in which one was ever known to eat while "in love." Now I do not remember that I ever in my life enjoyed a breakfast more than my very substantial one on board the Aaron Smith that morning. I am aware that this showed a fearful want of sensibility on my part, and I should therefore have omitted the mention of the breakfast altogether had it not been for an untoward accident which was the means of introducing me to a new acquaintance.

The events of the preceding night were the subjects of conversation. To my surprise, the whole affair was treated as an excellent joke. Many witticisms were perpetrated at the expense of the frightened actors in the storm tragedy, and as this included nearly every one present, much good-humored laughter was the result. It was astonishing what admirable presence of mind had been shown by the ladies, and how very courageous and gallant all the gentlemen would have been had there been any necessity for it. Jerry assured the company that he had made up his mind to save three ladies at least, or to die in the attempt.

The gentleman who sat next to me did not join in the conversation, either because he had a contempt for the whole affair, or else was too busily engaged discussing hot rolls and coffee, to engage in any discussion less satisfactory. He was a short, thin man, with a head the shape, color and smoothness of a golden pippin; his little gray eyes twinkled like stars; his nose, which did not seem more than half an inch long, was all drawn out of shape; his mouth was curved like a bow; and his little, round chin curled itself up in a most impudent and defying manner. He wore a plain, neat suit of black, which was strangely set off by a flashy red vest. He was such a grotesque little figure that, after I had once caught a glimpse of him, I could not help looking again and again. Once he turned and caught my eye; and there was in his face such a blending of intelligence, kindness, impudence and mischief as is indescribable, but which made me still more curious concerning him; for such a countenance indicated no ordinary character. Fortune, or rather misfortune, favored me in the following manner.

Having finished his third cup and dispatched his sixth roll, the little man pushed away his plate, and began rubbing his bald head with a white cambric handkerchief until the little pippin changed its yellow hue for one decidedly crimson, while he screwed his little face into such a variety of shapes that I was ready to laugh outright. Taking advantage of a pause, he began talking in the most rapid manner, addressing himself to the whole company in general, and to his opposite neighbor in particular, who happened to be the valiant Jerry.

"Do you call that a storm, sir? Why it was nothing! Nature was only amusing herself whistling a love song!"

Jerry assured him that he considered it "a slight affair—a very slight affair—nothing to create an alarm."

"I consider it a very severe gale," said my stout friend, decidedly, "and it was a mercy that this old, leaky boat—"

"A gale, sir! If you had ever been in the North Pacific you might talk about gales! When I was a young man, surgeon in the navy, I knew what gales were. Once, I remember, we encountered a tremendous one—blew the ship along at sixty miles an hour. Should have been delighted at the rate we were going if we had not found she was steering straight for a small island, and were afraid the wind would blow her on the rocky coast. But, bless you! when the ship came near the island, a sudden squall of wind just lifted her up and carried her clean over it."

"Is it possible!" said an old lady. "You must have been very much frightened."

"Not in the least, madam. That is nothing. I could tell you stranger things than that."

"Deary me!" exclaimed the old lady.

"Why, madam, a whirlwind once raised me up nearly to the clouds, and then set me gently down on the deck, without hurting me, just as easily as I can this cup."

Unfortunately for the little man's illustration, the cup slipped from his hand when he had elevated it to the height of his head, and it fell with a crash upon the table. The broken pieces flew in all directions, and one of them cut my hand.

"Now I have done it!" said the eccentric little man, jumping up. "Beg you a thousand pardons, Miss; but accidents will occur."

In an instant, before I had time to speak, he had torn his handkerchief in strips and bound my hand up tightly.

"Are you much hurt, Serena?" inquired Allan.

"Only a slight scratch. Nothing of any importance."

"Mr. Meredith, I believe," said the little man, seizing Allan's hand, and shaking it vigorously.

Allen started. "Ah! Dr. Radnor," he said, rather coolly.

"Now, Mr. Meredith, you need not look at me with that cannibal countenance, as if I had murdered this young lady. Her hand will soon heal, and be as fair, and smooth, and *soft* as ever." And the Doctor screwed up his face, and twinkled his eyes in a roguish sort of way, concluding the pantomime by rubbing his bald head with the remnant of his handkerchief.

During this performance, we had left the table, and entered the ladies' saloon. Allan smiled, and said: "Miss M'Cloud, allow me to introduce to you Doctor Radnor, of Philadelphia."

"Ah!" said the Doctor, "Miss M'Cloud! Happy to make your acquaintance. I have heard Miss Kate say that she expected you to spend the winter there. Shall be glad to do anything for you in my line," he added, with one of his horrible grimaces.

"I thank you for your kindness," said I, laughing; "but I trust I shall not need your services."

"That shows how unsophisticated you are. No fashionable lady ever thinks of living a week unless she asks permission of her physician. You have much to learn, young woman."

"I certainly do not desire to be a fashionable lady," I replied.

"Then you are going to the wrong school. I visit Mrs. Lane professionally nearly every day."

"Is she in such bad health?" I inquired, surprised.

"She is in a desperate condition," he said, with another odd grimace. "I have been for several years racking my brains to invent all sorts of medicines to keep her alive. Poor thing. I have given her ashes, and charcoal, and soap, and flour, and soda, in every imaginable form, and mixed with every ingredient that would not hurt a flea. I kept her for two months, once, on ashes and water. I called it cochlearitum indifusibiliterium, and assured her if she took more than ten drops at a time it would certainly kill her. I poured a few drops of currant wine into it, and I kept her on it two months longer, by calling it humbuggorium desideratum. She assured me it had done her a great deal of good, but that she had taken it so long it was losing its efficacy. I took the hint, and changed it to some rare powders, consisting of castile soap and flour."

"Suppose, Doctor, we tell all this when we arrive in Philadelphia?" said Allan.

"In that case, Mrs. Lane would go into a fit of violent hysterics, which would last for the space of three hours, forty-eight minutes and six seconds. They would send immediately for me. She would reproach me in the bitterest terms. I would wait patiently until she had exhausted her supply of words, then order a bread pill, and after that continue visiting her as before."

"Well," I exclaimed, "I thought people disliked physic too much to take it when it was unnecessary."

"Bless you, child, if that were the case, the physicians would soon starve to death, and the apothecaries would swallow their mortars and pestles in despair. Besides, that would take away all the glory and beauty of the science at once."

"How is that?" said I. "I am anxious to be enlightened."

"Why," he replied, "physicians make a mighty mystery of their art, and shake their heads, and look wise when a man is very sick; but the truth is, it is a very straight-forward affair after all. You see nature does most of the work for us, and if a man is going to die, he will do it, if the whole college of physicians says he shall not. It is astonishing how obstinate people are on this point. On the contrary, if he is going to get well, ten to one he does it faster without our help than with it. But to be able to minister to a diseased imagination! That is what makes your successful physician."

"I must say that this view of the subject is an entirely new one to me," said Allan.

"Depend upon it, my young friend, it is the right one. But, bless me!" cried the Doctor, glancing at his watch, "I promised to look in upon a poor, wretched man, who is laboring under the delusion that I can cure him of sea sickness."

So saying, the little Doctor walked away.

Allan arranged an impromptu sofa on the upper deck, and made me so comfortable with shawls and furs, that I scarcely felt the chill autumn air. It was very pleasant to be thus cared for, and I wondered how it had happened that he passed by the rich and great, and chose a poor orphan girl to cherish with his love. I said something of this to him when he had quietly seated himself by me. I can never forget his reply.

"Serena, we could not avoid loving each other. There is a harmony between our souls. We feel it and know it, but cannot define it. Should we be separated forever, our souls would live singly. Never could they be mated. You might perchance find one more worthy of your love than I, but you could never cling to him as you now do to me. He *could not* love you as I do. If it were possible that I could meet one possessing all the charms of my Serena, my spirit could never go forth to meet hers. It is linked to yours, and not even death can destroy that soul-communion. There are many natures that never feel thus. The happiness of these is less exquisite, but their sufferings also are less acute. There are some, and I believe their number is not small, who possess the feeling I have described, but are totally unconscious of it; nay, who remain so all their lives, because they have never met with a spirit to call it forth. Never until I knew you did I experience this feeling. I loved you from the time I first knew you, and I felt a conviction that you would certainly be mine. I lingered near Linden Hall. I wanted to study you. As I learned the loveliness of your character, I reverenced you as a noble-hearted woman, worthy the affection of a king, but I did not love you more than at first. That was impossible."

"O, Allan, what did you think of my foolish behavior the day before you left? I believe I was infatuated then."

"Say nothing about it, my love. You were young and thoughtless, and said a few foolish words. I was much older, and should have known better than to have got angry. I am very proud and passionate, Serena. You will find me full of faults."

"I am not afraid of you or your faults."

"You will love me notwithstanding. I know it; but, Serena, in spite of this knowledge, I have suffered agonies since I left you. But that is all over now, and we will speak of it no more."

"What will your mother think of me, Allan?"

"She will be delighted and proud, and will wonder how it happened that her good-for-nothing, roving boy won such a prize. She is one of the best of mothers. You will love her, Serena."

"I have a favor to ask, Allan."

"What can you ask not granted directly?"

"I wish you to keep our engagement secret for the present, and not mention it to any one."

"Not even to my mother?"

I shook my head.

"That is a severe condition, Serena."

"I want to get acquainted with her first in my own character."

"This is only a whim, dearest," said Allan gravely.

"It is one I wish indulged, at all events," I replied, firmly. "Indeed, Allan, it is no idle whim. I have excellent reasons for what I ask."

"Reasons you wish to conceal from me?" he said, reproachfully.

"For the present, dear Allan. Another time I will tell you all."

He looked at me earnestly for a moment, and then said: "Be it so, Serena; I will trust you, and rest content that your reasons must be good ones. Besides," he added, with one of his sunny smiles, "I wish to deserve being called 'dear Allan' again. You will tell Kate, I suppose?"

"I think not. Kate is very warm-hearted, but very indiscreet."

"Yes," said Allan, laughing. "She gave me a very funny account of the sudden disappearance of Mr. Croland from Linden Hall, supposing it to have been occasioned by your cruelty to him; although she assured me this was only suspicion, as you never confided your love affairs to her."

"It was certainly a suspicion without the shadow of a foundation. Mr. Croland was never sent from Linden Hall by me." And I laughed at the idea.

"Then he did not ask you to become Mrs. Croland?"

"Far from it. He would scarcely be pleased if he thought you entertained such an idea."

"He entertained such an idea, at all events."

"You are jesting, Allan."

"I never was more in earnest in my life."

"What put such a thought in your head?"

"He told me so himself."

"Mr. Croland told you?"

"He certainly did. In return for which confidence, I secretly laughed at him; for I knew you would never be Mrs. Croland."

I was amazed, and well I might be, for the few conversations Mr. Croland had held with me were far from lover-like.

"You really look disturbed," said Allan, laughing. "Shall I write and tell him you have changed your mind?"

My first impulse was to relate to Allan my strange interviews with Mr. Croland, the lunatic and Mrs. Landon, but I felt that I could not mar the enjoyment of the present hour by sad and perplexing thoughts. Had I confided in him then, perhaps much after misery might have been spared us both. But I do not know. We walk side by side with one who perchance holds the key that will unlock the mystery of our life, but, blind as we are, is it a wonder that we see it not?

But none of these thoughts disturbed me during that voyage to Philadelphia. How often, in the weary days, and weeks, and months which have passed since then, has the memory of that delightful voyage come back to me, like the fragrance which lingers around the rose when the life and beauty are gone. Moments of exquisite happiness those were in which I had Allan all to myself, without the cold world to step in between us, with no thought for anything but the present, living in each other's love, and reading it in each other's eyes.

CHAPTER XXIII.

"Here we are!" cried Allan, as he sprang out of the carriage, at Mr. Lane's door. I had scarcely set foot on the pavement, when I was seized violently by Kate; almost smothered with kisses; hurried up the white marble steps; and, in an hour's time, I had changed my travelling dress, been introduced to all the family, and found myself seated at the supper table, feeling perfectly at home.

While I am writing these memories of the past, I seem to be once more in that little supper room, and again to look upon the faces which I learned to love so well. The handsome face of Mr. Lane beams upon me, lighted up with one of his genial smiles, showing what a light and merry heart he carried in his bosom. Opposite him sits Mrs. Lane, with an elegant repose of manner, that is never ruffled, and is always charming. There is a sweet and dovelike expression on her fair, almost girlish face. You can read her character at a glance. You know that she is one to love, but not one to seek in time of affliction. She has lived always in the sunshine of prosperity. The shadows have not fallen upon her yet. Near her is her sister, Miss Ogden. She is no longer young, and there is a look of restless impatience and of dissatisfaction in her otherwise fine face, which leaves a disagreeable impression. My three pupils, Lottie, Mary and Rosa, are also there, eyeing "the new teacher" with a great deal of curiosity. My blithe and beautiful Kate sits by my side, and it is easy to see that she is the darling of the house.

Such was the family group gathered around the supper table the night of my arrival. Allan was there also and seemed to be a favorite with every one.

"And so, Serena, you encountered Doctor Radnor," said Kate. "What do you think of him?"

"That he is decidedly an 'original.'"

"Did he say anything about being in the navy?"

"He made some remarkable statements of events which occurred while he was in the service."

"He never can resist the temptation to tell enormous stories, but he is a most excellent man notwithstanding, and is one of my favorites."

"Kate treats him very much as if he were a pet bear," said Allan.

"Take care, cousin Allan," said Kate. "You must be on your polite behavior towards me. You know I am to introduce you into society this winter. I told Mrs. Clay that you were a distinguished African traveller. She is a great gossip, and I knew she would tell it everywhere. So prepare yourself to be lionized."

"Kate," said Miss Ogden, severely, "you know your cousin has never been to Africa."

"He has been to Spain, Aunt Sarah, and I expect he could see it from the rock of Gibraltar. At all events his uncle went there as a missionary, and that is pretty much the same thing. I want him to make a sensation. European travellers are as plenty as blackberries, and Asia is worn threadbare, but Africa presents quite a field for speculation."

Mrs. Lane listened to this with an air of nonchalance, while Mr. Lane laughed heartily. I began to understand how it happened that Kate had been left so entirely to her own guidance.

I think that we three, Allan, Kate and myself, sustained the conversation that evening. We talked over our residence at Linden Hall, and Kate recounted some of our experiences there to the infinite amusement of her auditors, especially the three little ones. She seemed to manage everything her own way. She dismissed Allan quite early, telling him to go home to his mother, and then carried me off to my room, "to rest after the fatigues of my journey," and then she sat up half the night talking to me.

"Now, *ma chere*," said the lively girl, when we reached the third-story, "this is your room. Seat yourself in this easy chair while I describe to you its immense advantages. In the first place, it looks on the street, and you can amuse yourself, in your leisure hours, by watching your neighbors. Secondly, it opens into my room, and you can have the pleasure of my company at all times. Thirdly, you are far removed from the noise and confusion that sometimes reigns in the lower departments, for I can assure you we are very harum-scarum people."

"You have never told me about Miss Ogden, Kate. I did not know she was a member of your family."

"She is not a regular member of it, but she has taken up her abode here for the winter, much to my annoyance. I have no doubt she has come expressly to superintend my winter campaign, for this is my first season in society, and she labors under the delusion that no one can manage me but herself."

"What a beautiful woman your mother is. I shall never tire looking at her lovely countenance."

"Is she not charming?" said Kate, her eyes sparkling with pleasure. "Do you know that I cannot get rid of the feeling that she is younger than I am, and that I must take care of her. But this feeling is not peculiar to me, for it is a tacit understanding in the whole family, from father down to little Rosa, and even among the servants, that mother is not to be troubled with anything. Even Aunt Sarah, in the midst of one of her tirades, will drop her voice to the lowest tones if mother enters the room."

"She looks as if she had never known a sorrow in her life."

"Sorrows she has had, for she has lost both her parents, and a sister, to whom she was tenderly attached; but she has never been annoyed by petty cares. Those are what make people look old. I intend to sing, during my whole life, 'Begone, dull care.'"

"I suppose, my dear, you are anticipating a brilliant winter."

"O, yes! I shall lead a gay life. Rather different from Linden Hall, eh, Serena? Mother is to give a grand party next week in my honor; so, you see, you have arrived at the very 'nick of time.' Cousin Fanny is to give one soon. By-the-way, Serena, you will have the opportunity of making Cousin Fanny's acquaintance. She has taken a house in the city for the winter. She is Allan's mother, you know. Why, how red your face is, Serena! You had better move away from the fire."

"The fire is quite warm," said I, moving into the shadow as much as possible.

"Did Allan make himself agreeable? Was it not a fine thought in me, sending him word to come on with you? I know you are thanking me in your secret soul."

"You might at least have notified me of your benevolence."

"I did actually commence a letter for that very purpose, but I happened to recollect that you are a very peculiar sort of young lady, and did not know but you might get into the wrong boat by accident, if you knew Allan was to be passenger in the Aaron Smith. So I concluded not to send it. You must not forget, Serena, that I am to be your bridesmaid."

"I expect you will be married yourself before I need your services."

"But I intend to wait for you. It is my opinion that I shall not be obliged to wait long. I am very sure that a veil and orange blossoms will be becoming to your style of beauty."

And thus she ran on. It was her way to talk a great deal of nonsense, but she said it all so prettily, you loved to listen to her. After she had said "good-night," I sat for a long time in the glow of the fire-light, thinking of my friend Kate, who had grown very dear to me. And, thinking of her ardent and affectionate temperament, her frank and ingenuous disposition, I prayed that, when she wore the bridal veil and orange blossoms, it might be for one who would prove faithful and worthy.

The next morning, while the children were studying their lessons, I seated myself at the window of the school-room to write to Mrs. Wilson. There was but little in the prospect without to claim my attention. The window commanded a view of a small yard, which contained a little grass plot, a grape arbor, and a broad brick walk with a few sickly plants trying to grow on its gravelly border. At the foot of this was a narrow alley, and beyond this another yard, exactly like the one just described. Casting the glance heavenward, you beheld a succession of glittering roofs, and tall chimneys, with small patches of pale blue sky between them. There was something oppressive in all this to me, as I had lately been accustomed to the freedom of country life, and to look upon waving trees and brilliant flowers.

A servant entered with a letter for me. It was post-marked New York, and contained a hundred dollar note, and the words, "from one who wishes to serve you." This was the fourth time in two years that I had received such a communication. It always distressed me for I could never endure mystery. I had not made any use of the money, resolving to wait until I discovered the donor. While I held the note in my hand, and was filled with perplexing thoughts, little Rosa came in and said: "Miss M'Cloud, Cousin Allan is in the parlor, and wishes to see you."

I found him alone, and showed him the mysterious note.

"I think your brother sent it, Serena."

"Then he must be in New York."

"That does not follow necessarily. He may have an agent there."

"I do not think Gerald sends these. I am confident if he knew of our father's death and my situation, he would come to me, or write. It is not like him to do things anonymously, and there would be no necessity for secrecy if he wished to supply me with money."

"That is true, my love. Do not distress yourself thinking of it. I leave this morning for New York, where I shall remain several days. I will make inquiries at the post-office, and will endeavor to discover your unknown benefactor; but, I confess, I have not very sanguine hopes of success. I could not go without looking at you once more, to make sure that there is such a being as my Serena, and that all that has passed is not a delightful dream."

Miss Ogden and Kate came in, and soon after, pretending not to notice a beseeching look from Allan, I excused myself and returned to the school-room. Here I found Lottie describing geometrical problems on her face with a cork dipped in ink, Mary scooping the ashes from under the grate, and making "ant hills" on the carpet, while Rosa was diligently employed cutting the leaves of her spelling-book into dolls.

After school I rode out with Kate to indulge in one of the amusements of city ladies—shopping. I did not have much inclination for the sport; possibly because I had not the means for gratifying my taste. Kate entered into it with a great deal of zest, protesting all the time it was the most tiresome thing in the world.

We returned in time to dress for dinner. At the table our party was increased by Doctor Radnor and Mr. Eugene Smith. This young gentleman, from the crown of his glossy head to the very tip of his glossy boots, was as resplendent as possible. Kate took the first opportunity of informing me that he was a "great fortune," and consequently a "great catch." I soon discovered that he was one of her ladyship's admirers. She amused herself by quizzing him most unmercifully, to the great enjoyment of Doctor Radnor, who screwed his little features into a great variety of grotesque shapes.

During the evening, several persons dropped in; some distinguished in the scientific and literary world. I was charmed with the society I had been so fortunate as to find in my new home.

Well, I thought, as I entered my room that night, if every day I spend in Philadelphia resembles this, I shall soon be spoiled, and never be able to drop into the dull routine of school-life again. And then my thoughts recurred to Allan Meredith, and I smiled as I thought that, for me, the drudgery of life was nearly over.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

THE RING MY MOTHER WORE.

BY LOUIS DELA.

The earth has many treasures rare,
In gems and golden ore;
My heart hath one, more precious far—
The ring my mother wore.
I saw it first, when I, a child,
Was playing by her side;
She told me then, 'twas father's gift
When she became his bride.

I saw it oft in sorrow's hours,
Which marked the after years,
When shining on the soft, white hand
That wiped away my tears.
And, oh! I saw it once again,
When, on her dying bed,
She lifted up her hand in prayer,
And laid it on my head.

Beside that bed, where fell my tears,
The ring to me was given;
She placed it on my hand, and said,
"We'll meet again in heaven!"
I kissed the cheek I oft had pressed,
From which the rose had fled;
And, bowed with grief, stood motherless,
Alone, beside the dead.

Among the blest in realms above,
Where sorrows are unknown,
O may I meet my mother dear,
No more to weep alone.
Her dying words of love and faith
I'll cherish evermore
Within the heart that holds so dear
The ring my mother wore.

FACILIS DRIGGS;

OR, LEARN TO SAY "NO."

Facilis Driggs was one of those unfortunate individuals who never could say "no," and hence he was everybody's walking-stick, he was everybody's cat's paw, he was everybody's dupe. While he was at Dr. Crammer's seminary, his school-mates had determined to introduce a good sized vicious jackass into the elevated seat of the preceptor. With great difficulty the wicked madcaps succeeded in boosting the animal up the academy stairs, and getting him fastened in the chair of instruction. But still the long-eared brute struggled for freedom on all fours, and as Facilis was as remarkable for strength of body as for weakness and pliability of mind, he was easily persuaded by one of the ringleaders to steady the ass's head, while the rest of the scholars should take their accustomed seats, and make it appear like regular school hours, with old Crammer in the chair. Had a photograph been taken of the scene, boyish countenances at the small desks overflowing with waggery, and two asses heads on the platform would have been the result. A second photograph would have displayed the additional figure of old Crammer on the platform, his right hand angrily collaring Facilis, and his two Brobdinag feet employed in bestowing a series of lusty kicks in the ribs of the unfortunate quadruped who had usurped his place. Poor Facilis, with hardly wit enough to perpetrate the smallest kind of a practical joke, being thus taken in the very act, was regarded as the projector of the proffered indignity, and the delicate operation of having his jacket nicely warmed by the doctor was the consequence.

Anonymous letter writing formed the next amusement of the young gentlemen of the seminary. "Censor" informed Mrs. Maxwell that "if she would take the trouble to look in some evening at a certain house in the outskirts of the village, she might discover her esteemed spouse drinking champagne to the health of a dashing specimen of femininity in black eyes and a blue dress." "A sincere friend" suggests to Mr. Calomel, the druggist, that "if he should watch that lank, long-visaged clerk of his a little sharper, he might save some seventy-five cents a day which were pillaged from his money drawer." "One who knows" tells old Mr. Sharpe, the miser, that "his son Jed in New York, instead of giving his attention to the study of the law, is more concerned in making himself familiar with the various breeds of horses and game cocks." Miss Skinnerly, a young maiden lady of sweet forty-five, receives a love letter from a gentleman who had been smitten with her charms at church, and is assured that "if she will reply to her admirer and grant him an interview, there will be no betrayal of confidence." Miss Skinnerly was not a lady to resist the honied compliments of this love epistle, for she felt convinced, as she told Miss Quackenbush, who had come to take a quiet cup of green tea with her, that the writer must be a gentleman of great discernment as well as delicacy. But *her* reply did the business for poor Facilis; for the boys made themselves merry over it a manner so boisterous and public, that at length it became the talk of the village, and Dr. Crammer found it necessary to pursue investigations. From a comparison of the hand-writing of the various notes which of late had flooded the village, it was clearly ascertained that "Censor," "A sincere friend," "One who knows," and Miss Skinnerly's adorer, as well as some other imaginary individuals, were one and the same person, and that this person was none other than Facilis Driggs. When persuaded by the boys to write the letters they dictated, the persuasion was accompanied by such flattering encomiums on his superior penmanship, and such serious assurances of secrecy, that Facilis could more easily have amputated one of his fingers than have said "No."

Dr. Cranmer's suspicions were all in the right direction; he well knew that Facilis was less guilty than his comrades—in fact, that he was, as usual, a dupe; but, as he had no idea of breaking up his establishment by expelling all his scholars, he met the public requirement by making a scapegoat of poor Facilis, and his parents were requested to withdraw him from the school.

When Facilis was a clerk in the establishment of Delaine, Poplin & Co, such was the unquestioned integrity of his character, that he became quite a favorite with his employers; but even here his inability to say "no" destroyed his future prospects in the house. As a junior clerk, the keys of the store were committed to his care, and for a long while matters and things moved on smoothly enough, but at length it was found that whole pieces of valuable goods were from time to time missing. A strict but secret surveillance was now kept by the proprietors and one or two of the confidential clerks, over all the assistants of the establishment; but as nothing occurred during the day to fasten on any one the slightest suspicion, it was concluded that the thefts, which now continued, must be committed during the night by professed burglars, by means of false keys. Keeping their counsel entirely to themselves, two of the proprietors now determined to return to the store immediately after tea for several evenings, and entering by an extra set of keys, to secrete themselves, armed, and watch operations. They were not put to the trouble of repeating their visits many nights, for on the second or third evening, at about seven o'clock, the store was entered by two men, who at once struck a light, and proceeded to pack about their persons several pieces of silks and some valuable shawls. The proprietors, from their hiding places, instantly perceived, to their horror, that the depredators were two of their own clerks, and just as they were about to depart with their ill-gotten gains, they were sprung upon, and, with faces bowed in ignominious shame, were consigned to the police.

An examination of the keys by which they entered proved them to be the regular store keys, and the question naturally arose, "how did they get possession of them?" This was quickly elucidated; the two culprits had boarded where Facilis did, and borrowed the keys under pretence of desiring to read and study in the store. Facilis had his misgivings as to the propriety of allowing the keys to go out of his custody, but how was it possible for him to say "no," to a couple of gentlemanly fellow clerks? It was quite impossible, and the loss of his valuable situation was the consequence.

When Facilis had arrived at the age of 25, his father, who was a resident of the country, advanced him a capital of a few thousand dollars, and established him up town in what is known as the genteel family grocery business. The industry and application of the young man were such as to draw around him a class of superior custom, and in eight or ten years he might probably have retired with a moderate competency, but unfortunately, with all his past experience, he had never yet learned to utter that important monosyllable, "no." As the natural consequence of this, he failed, made an assignment, and was thrown upon the world.

It came about in this way. A brother grocer, a certain Mr. O'Hummer, of incompetent business character, and extravagant in his habits, becoming short, solicited Facilis to exchange notes with him for $1000. Facilis replied that "he had made a positive promise to the old gentleman, his father, never to endorse any man's paper, no matter who he was."

"Well, you did perfectly right," quickly interposed O'Hummer, "I don't wish you to endorse, for I wouldn't do it myself, but this exchanging notes, you see, is a very different sort of an affair; you take my note of the same amount for which you give me yours, and so we stand perfectly even; there is really no endorsing about it."

The countenance of Facilis betraying that he would probably "cave in" after a due degree of urgency, Mr. O'Hummer resumed his specious argument:

"Why, it's only a matter of form, after all, Driggs; my bank will discount your note with my endorsement, and of course both our notes will be taken care of at maturity, in this way: I shall pay you your note, and then you hand me back mine. You can easily see that it is to my interest to see that your paper is protected—reason why—you have my note against me for the same amount. And then, besides, Driggs, let what will come, even if I should fail and go all to flinders, I should regard all such matters as strictly confidential."

Suffice it to say the accommodating Facilis yielded, and to the first thousand dollars was soon afterwards added another thousand, and then yet another and another, making $5000 in all. Still, as O'Hummer observed to Facilis each time he came with the note ready drawn for his signature: "It is only a matter of form, and, to make the worst of it, it amounts to to nothing more than a mere exchange." So it proved, indeed; for before any of the notes matured O'Hummer made a great smash, as his neighbors termed it, and such was his mercantile rottenness, that Facilis had an opportunity of meditating on the superior advantages of exchanging notes, and finding how near they tallied with Mr. O'Hummer's flowery representations. As I have stated, Facilis himself was driven to an assignment, and among his assets were five notes, of $1000 each, signed by one Dennis O'Hummer, and Mr. Claremont, the assignee, playfully observed that—"if each of them were torn in two lengthwise, the whole five might supply ten rather indifferent cigar-lighters, for they would never be of any other use under the sun."

A few years after this, the father of Facilis, Mr. Driggs, Sen., departed this life and left our hero, a small landed estate in the country, where with ordinary exertion and industry it was easy to make a comfortable living. As Facilis had married about this time a very worthy and exemplary woman, his prospects were at least flattering; and there now seemed a hope that he was at last nicely anchored for life. It will be seen, however, that we are never so absolutely secure in our possessions, and in the independency of our position, but that misplaced confidence in others may deprive us of these advantages. So it happened with Facilis; he continued to believe that all men (except those who had already cheated him) were reliable and honest, and trusted them accordingly.

A newly elected sheriff of the county in which Facilis resided was required to give a bondsman for the sum of four thousand dollars as security for the faithful discharge of his official duties. Although the successful candidate had run into office on a wave of popular excitement he was not by any means regarded as a reliable man, and hence he found it impossible to persuade any of the heavy men of the county to become his bondsman. At length his applications were made to the moderate farmers of the neighborhood, but they too were shy of him, and for a while it seemed dubious whether the sheriff of a day would ever have the opportunity of levying on an execution. But the evil genius of our hero again intruded, and the wily sheriff finding that he had at last fallen in with one whose temperament was impressible, and whose bump of confidence was largely developed, so plied poor Facilis with protestations and promises, that in spite of the remonstrance of his best friends, he signed the fatal papers. Fatal they were indeed to him, for in less than eighteen months the dishonest sheriff betrayed his trust, and absconded with a considerable amount of money. The payment of the bond which Facilis was compelled to make, ruined him completely. The whole of his little property was sacrificed, and the last information I received of his circumstances, was that he was employed in working a little miserable farm, belonging to one of his neighbors, on shares.

There is but little prospect that Facilis will even be able to extricate himself from the dismal slough of poverty into which he has now fallen; on the contrary, his lamentable condition seems likely to be permanent.

The moral of the foregoing story is this. We may learn sixteen different languages, and be able to converse in each one of them fluently, but unless we have also learned to say "no" on all proper occasions, our sixteen languages will do us precious little good, and we shall live to little or no purpose. A. I. G.—*N. Y. Commercial.*

DISSIMULATION.

Dissimulation in youth is the forerunner of perfidy in old age; its first appearance is the fatal omen of growing depravity and future shame. It degrades parts and learning, obscures the lustre of every accomplishment, and sinks us into contempt. After the first departure from sincerity it is not in our power to stop; one artifice unavoidably leads on to another, till, as the intricacy of the labyrinth increases, we are left entangled in our snare.

A MAN asked another, whom he was about to help to chicken, whether he wished the leg or the wing? "It is a matter of perfect indifference to me," said the other. "And infinitely more so to me," replied the carver, laying down the knife and fork, and resuming his own dinner.

AS THE DIAMOND is found in the darkness of the mine, as the lightning shoots with most vivid flashes from the gloomiest cloud, so does mirthfulness frequently proceed from a heart susceptible of the deepest melancholy.

THE DOLLAR NEWSPAPER.

PHILADELPHIA:

Wednesday Morning, February 13, 1861.

THE CHINESE EMPIRE.

What is to become of the Chinese Empire is a question now frequently asked. The Tartar government has been growing rapidly worse in two respects for the last half century, more cruel and vindictive in the employment of force, and more given to the use of lies and shams of all kinds. Now all its forces have been publicly defeated, and all its lies and shams have been exposed to the whole people, not of a distant province, but of the capital itself. The government of the present dynasty is utterly demoralized, nor could it stand for a day, but for this fact, that anything in the shape and form of a government will stand until there is some other government of greater force to overthrow it. What that great force will be that will supercede the rotten government of three hundred millions, now at Pekin, is the only question. One supposition is that the existing dynasty will be propped up by a sort of joint French and English protectorate. But it will be easier to build up an entirely new monarchy than to preserve the old and rotten and proud one. The conquest of China would seem an inevitable result. Just as in India the choice was between the black hole in Calcutta and the destruction and absorption, one after another of all those Indian governments, from that of Bengal to that of Oude, so from Canton to Pekin. China now lies like a harpooned whale, floundering helplessly at the mercy of its captors; and in less than one hundred years it might not unreasonably be expected that the dominion of either England or France, or both in China, would be as sweeping and complete as in India now. There are two difficulties in the way. One is that France and England, jealous of each other, would be certain to quarrel over such a prize as this, with all its prospective wealth for the victors. Our own treaty gives us, also, some rights and duties in this matter. Some day a great battle will take place, either by sea or land, not a hundred miles from Dover, to settle who shall be "boss" in China, if not, also, in India. Should the Suez canal be ever cut through, this question may be settled either in the Red Sea or at the Mediterranean entrance of it.

But in the mean time there is another power, at present ignored alike by France, by England and the Pekin Emperor, that may quite possibly upset all these calculations. The Tae-Ping-Wang rebels, as they are called, have been abused and despised of all, but it is by no means certain that they will not be the channel through which European ideas will now remodel the Chinese mind. Tae-Ping-Wang himself years ago saw that Christianity produced that effect upon the nations that embraced it, which made them strong and successful, and every way more powerful for war or for peace, than his own people. It was this thought without doubt that led him to study Christianity, and then to try and introduce it among his countrymen. The rebel movement is a religious movement essentially, more than a political one. It is at present a battle among three hundred millions of people, between, on the one side, a strong faith in one God—a Father and a friend ever operating through a Universal Providence—and on the other a dead form of Idolatry among the masses, covering over a real Atheism, or at best, Buddhist Pantheism, on the other. All the Missionaries who have visited the rebel camps have come to this conclusion. The rebels have many wrong notions and many evil ways. Their cruelties have been overdrawn, but it is a sort of confidence in God and Providence that animates and carries them on, and accounts alone for their success so far. These missionaries say that the Scriptures are their standard and faith, they consider Christ their "elder brother,' and say to foreigners "why should we be at variance when we believe in the same Heavenly Father and the same elder brother?"

These men now seem taking hold of the empire with an iron grasp, and treading it like conquorers. Now that the heart of the old power is paralyzed at Pekin, there will probably be nothing to obstruct their progress, and in two years they hope to overrun the land. If this be so, could not our treaty with China enable us so to interfere as at once to protect our own missionaries, and through them, this sort of progress of a pure Theism among them, instead of the brutal military subjugation to foreigners, whose conduct and example will only retard the progress of all *real* civilization and progress in China.

THE FORTS IN THE SOUTH.

In a Government like ours, of limited powers, and in which the powers not confided to the General Government belong to the States, it is highly important that, by no silence of the public press, endorsement should be given to a popular error suddenly sprung upon us, as if, because it had never been contradicted, it were therefore an incontrovertible position. In regard to the relative rights and duties of the separate States and the General Government, many new theories have of late been advanced. There are some of these positions that never have been contradicted, because they are so impudent and untenable that no man ever dared to broach them before, and there are others never called in question, because so universally admitted and so undeniably true. The secessionists at the South complain of each act of the Government in strengthening the forts, as if it were a menace of their unquestionable rights and liberties, and an act of coercion against the State. At Richmond, the following resolution was passed at a public meeting—"that the attention of the Legislature be hereby called to the fact of the overt act of coercion now actually perpetrated at fortress Monroe."

What is this act of "coercion?" Simply putting the fort itself in such a situation that it cannot be coerced to surrender by an armed force, either of the mob or any other body whatsoever. If this is coercion, so is the *existence* of the fort, and indeed of a Government of the United States at all. The very thing that a fort is built for, is to enable the small body of men occupying it to be impregnable, and not able to be captured by any exterior force whatever. The secessionists pretend to say it was simply intended to afford protection against enemies outside of the State, and not from the State itself. But where is the proof of this? The proof all lies on the other side. The United States is *a government* with all the rights of self-protection, and the duty of collecting the revenue at one port on goods destined for the whole country. Suppose the State of New York were to want all the commerce of its metropolis to come in duty free, is it not the very object for which the General Government was created, and for which forts and revenue cutters were built, to enforce for the whole United States those imposts?

Why do not the separate States build the forts, and what means the fact that they expressly *renounce jurisdiction over them to the United Seates*, if they have a right to claim them at pleasure? The fortresses of the South have actually cost nearly twice as much money as those of the North. On a broad and national scale this is right enough, perhaps, but could Maine and Massachusetts and New York have voluntarily subscribed nine or ten millions of dollars to erect forts in the South, which the United States is not to have the right to protect for itself? These forts, what can they do? They cannot be put on wheels and moved into the interior of a State to overawe a free people. They can protect the fleets of the United States; but they will, none of them, hold more than about a thousand men. No army that could intimidate a free people could find shelter in them. But whatever they are, they are built by the United States, owned by it, ceded to it, and the President is sworn to defend and protect those forts, all of them. He would violate his oath if he were to put them in danger, or voluntarily leave them in such a state that, at any time whatever, even after his term had expired, through his neglect, they were not in the most perfect security possible, *against all comers whatsoever*. This is what a fort is for, to render its inhabitants secure from coercion.

Our forts have not been secure. Key West is now; but nearly all the rest of the forts have been basely seized, and weakly, if not in every case wickedly surrendered. It is the first duty of every good citizen to support the Government, in rendering what of the forts remain strong. As property they belong to the United States, but more as the symbols and proofs of its rights as a Government, all who love the Government will approve of their being placed beyond contingency and preserved by faithful hands. It is said that Com. Armstrong and General Twiggs have each declared they would never use their weapons against their countrymen. This sounds very fine to secessionists; but if a mob of secessionists come to fire upon the flag of the United States, and cause it, and trail in the dirt, General Jackson would have scorned to own such as his countrymen, to the extent of not preserving that flag. If the reports of the speech of Commodore Armstrong in the Pensacola papers be true, and his lachrymose speech about not knowing where he was going to earn his bread, he certainly never ought again to eat the bread of the Government he so basely betrayed.

WHAT BECAME OF IT?—In 1850 South Carolina tried the experiment of building up a navy, and appropriated $500,000 towards two steamships to carry cotton, and at the same time be ready to convert into war vessels. One steamship was built at New York, but the State got egregiously swindled by the contractor. The ship would not perform the duty required of her, and after tumbling about from one port to another, was finally left to rot in one of the docks in England.

HOW THEY STAND.—A Washington correspondent of a Republican journal says the strength of the parties for and against amicable adjustment is, 98 for, 40 against. In this list Pennsylvania is put down 20 for and 9 against. New York 19 for and 10 against.

THE PANIC IN ENGLAND.

A singular features of our crisis, is, that the effects of it so far are more immediately felt by the poor in Great Britain and in France, than by those in our own northern cities and towns. In London, the workhouses are all full, and eleven hundred received assistance at the Thames police office, in one day, four hundred more being sent away without relief. Two days afterwards three thousand poor women received a trifling relief. Panics should be met with courage and with confidence. The raising of the rate of discount at the Bank of England will not affect materially the influx of gold, so far as this country is concerned, for it is notorious that we are not so nice in our calculations about one or two per cent. When we want gold, we get it at any price. So to a great degree does the Emperor of France. Now we have enough and more than enough, and it will soon begin to stop of itself. But the rise to seven per cent. for discounts has checked the employment of capital in manufactures throughout England, and especially in the metropolis, just at the pinch of the season, when the weather is coldest and the poor are at the very poorest, when days are short, and fire, and light and clothing and food, to say nothing of gin, are all in extra demand among the poor.

Added to this, the pressure of panic on the Bank of France, and its possible stoppage of specie payments, and there is every reason to fear a terrible winter for both of the countries, so far as their poor are concerned. It is not such a famine as that which depopulated Ireland to the extent of two millions of its inhabitants out of eight. But it is the deficient crop which forms the great present weakness of France and England, and causes to them the burden we should have had if our crops had been but the usual average. Nothing can more fully illustrate the fact that commerce binds men together in such a singular complication of ties that a blow struck at one commercial nation will affect *vicariously* oftentimes in place of *directly*, other nations than that on which the blow fell. To what extent this law, by which the secondary effects of our troubles are going to affect Europe, will act, is now the great problem. But certainly to a far less extent, in all probability, than the suffering which would have resulted from their own famine, had we not had a surplus crop to help them out. They have bought our wheat because it was the cheapest supply that could be obtained, even paying for it in coin. Without our supply, food would have been dearer and purchased at higher prices, so that the laws of commerce mitigate suffering as a whole, in spite of all these vicarious or secondary effects. But when we think how, by equalizing, they have lightened our burdens, we learn the true value of extensive commercial relations.

But for the command of gold, which our wheat has given us, our banks in New York would have been obliged to suspend when they expanded; our stocks would have fallen dead, our operatives been without work, and our country torn with two convulsions, a pecuniary as well as a political one, at the same time. Even now the reaction of any great commercial panic in England may most seriously affect us. In less than a month gold will be flowing out from us again almost as rapidly as it is now flowing in. It is coming in too fast for the amount of work we have to do with it, and we should not be at all surprised if, before long, the same vessel that brings out a lot of gold should take it back again on the return trip. Any derangement of monetary affairs in France would only affect us in this country in proportion as it affected England, and through the mischief done there. Indeed, a panic in France might cause exportations of broadcloths and fine goods to be sold at any sacrifice, but could otherwise affect us but little. The French do not invest in our securities to any extent; they buy this year our wheat, and always our cotton. But it is the effect now on the London money market that we must watch.

THE NEGRO QUESTION IN ENGLAND

One of the singular and complicated cases that has ever yet arisen in the relations between the North American Colonies and Great Britain, has just turned up in the shape of the runaway negro case in Toronto, with the details of which most of our readers are familiar. A negro running away, was attempted to be stopped by a planter in Missouri. The only chance of escape was to stab the planter. This he did; reached Canada, and was demanded under the treaty for the rendition of murderers. The Court of Queen's Bench decided that he should be given up. For some reason, however, action was delayed, and on application of the Secretary of the English Anti-slavery Society, the Court of Queen's Bench in England has granted a writ of habeas corpus, by virtue of which he is to be taken before that Court at Westminster.

The first and most important question to *us* is, whether by the treaty he ought to be given up. By the laws of the United States, he was guilty of murder. But, by the law of England, it seems he is no more thus regarded than if he had been in danger from an highwayman, and shot him. Indeed, it now appears that this very case was hypothetically discussed by Macauley and Lord Derby, at the time when the treaty was made, and it was by all parties agreed that the law of murder was to be judged by the decisions of the Courts of the country where the criminal had taken refuge. If this is so, well and good. But it seems to us hardly possible that a man killing another in attempting to escape against the laws of the land, can be let go clear, on account of any supposed injustice in the law itself. The English law of impressment is very severe, and if, in escaping from it, a man should shoot the captain of his ship, and swim on shore from an English man-of-war in an American port, should we feel disposed to inquire whether the English laws as to seamen were founded upon natural justice? Cases often occur in which runaway soldiers steal money to get off with. One such occurred not a great while ago. On the other hand, it may be said that there is never a slave who escapes, but in the eye of the law may be said to be guilty of larceny of the clothes on his back, or some old horse or mule on which he may ride off.

But we are not quite sure that the law always is to be construed according to the land to which the escape is made. And if it is, should not the Queen's Bench in Canada decide the local law of Canada, rather than the Queen's Bench of Great Britain? The most important question arising out of this case is one of jurisdiction between the local Canadian authorities and those of the Courts at Westminster. Perhaps there never yet was a case so well fitted to establish a precedent favorable to an extension of the Westminster Court over the entire line of her Colonies round the globe. The rendition of this man for murder is highly unpopular, and the people themselves would be glad of any excuse not to surrender him. But twenty years ago they would a thousand times rather have given up to the United States than have acknowledged the authority of the English Court to remand a man or demand him to be sent across the Atlantic in face of a decision of the highest Canadian authorities.

If the English Courts may thus claim one man to set him free, may they not equally claim another to punish him for supposed offences. This is a question, too, which affects not Canada alone or Bermuda, but India and New South Wales and the recently ceded point of land in China. In fine, this is a question which bears upon a hundred and fifty millions of persons scattered in every quarter and all around the globe. It is a *new* exercise of power, and of a centralizing tendency, one of vaster consequence to every British subject than can well be imagined. The judges themselves hesitated and almost trembled to grant the writ, and whether the execution of it will be submitted to without protest or remonstrance, we do not know. At some periods of Colonial history such a writ would have wrenched off a dozen colonies. New South Wales is at present perhaps more likely to raise a dust about it than Canada.

THE ROMANCE OF FACT.—Miss Patterson, or rightfully Madame Jerome Bonaparte, after quiet resignation to the decrees of fate and of the State, is about to emerge from her retirement, and, in the French courts of law, contest her claims to be considered his legitimate wife, and to secure for herself and son their part of the personal property left by the recently deceased prince. The case will come before the Tribunal of the First Instance at Paris on the 25th of the present month, with M. Berryer and M. Legrand as counsel for Madame Bonaparte. They have drawn up a printed memoir of the facts, commencing with a recapitulation of the life of Jerome Bonaparte, and a history of his acquaintance and marriage with Miss Patterson, with the subsequent divorce. The whole history of this case is more like a romance than plain facts, and it will serve to enliven the prosaic proceedings of the law courts wherein it will soon be discussed.

THE PALMETTO FLAG SNUBBED.—The South Carolina "sovereignty" has received the first rebuff, and from that "weak power, Spain." A small brigantine, from Charleston, went in past the Moro Castle, with the Palmetto flag flying, or rather the stripes with one star, but was immediately, by order of the officer in command at the Moro, brought to anchor under its guns, and kept there for six hours, when the flag of the Union was hoisted, and she was permitted to proceed up the harbor. The Southern newspapers used to make a great noise in filibuster days over the "outrages upon the American flag," which every Spanish steamer committed, when exercising lawful authority in protecting Cuba against piratical raids. This "insult" will probably be quietly pocketed, for it is neither the interest of South Carolina to make a fuss at this time, nor has she the means at hand to protect her palmetto in foreign ports.

FLATBOATS INTERCEPTED ON THE MISSISSIPPI.—Notwithstanding the denial that Mississippi interferes with the navigation of the river, the Chicago papers say there are acres of flatboats loaded with provisions which have been stopped on their way down.

THE NUMBER OF DEATHS in this city last week was 219—104 adults and 115 children.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

On *Tuesday*, after the presentation of a great number of petitions and memorials on the subject of the national troubles, a resolution, providing in the usual manner for the counting of the Electoral vote for President and Vice President, was adopted. The Loan bill was taken up, and passed, it meeting with no further opposition. It now only awaits the signature of the President to become a law. The President's Special Message was then considered, and Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, gave his views of the crisis at length. His speech was a very powerful argument for the preservation of the Union, and a scathing rebuke to secession. He did not conclude his remarks, but gave way to a motion to adjourn—previous to which a message was received from the President, accompanying a series of resolutions adopted by the Legislature of Kentucky, asking Congress to do something to arrest the dissolution of the Union.

On *Wednesday* petitions and memorials were received from various parties. The Deficiency bill was received with the House amendments. The Senate agreed to insist upon their own amendment, and recommended that a committee of conference be appointed. A bill was reported and laid over, providing for the better organization of the militia in the District of Columbia. A motion made by Mr. Douglas, reconsidering the vote by which the Colorado bill was passed, was disagreed to. The consideration of the President's message was resumed, and Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, concluded his remarks. He was at one time interrupted by a committee from the House, requesting that a conference committee on the Loan bill might be appointed. The request was granted. After Mr. Johnson finished, Mr. Wigfall, of Texas, obtained the floor, when the Senate went into Executive session, and subsequently adjourned.

On *Thursday*, Mr. Thompson, of New Jersey, in presenting petitions in favor of the Crittenden Compromise, took occasion to differ from his colleague, Mr. Ten Eyck, as to the duties of a Senator in the matter of obeying the instructions of his constituents. At the same time, he expressed his condemnation of the course the seceding States have seen fit to pursue, in seizing the property of the General Government. Petitions were also presented by Mr. Collamer, of Vermont, and Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania, in favor of compromise. The President's Message was then taken up for consideration, and Mr. Wigfall, of Texas, proceeded to reply to the speech of Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee.

On *Friday*, petitions from Philadelphia in favor of the preservation of the Union and the enforcement of the law, were presented by Senators Seward and Hale. A discussion took place on the McCormick reaper patent, and a resolution was passed to extend the time for taking testimony. The Committee of Conference on the Loan bill reported that the committee had agreed to an amendment to the effect that the amount accruing from the former loan shall be applied to the redemption of the outstanding Treasury notes under the act of December 17th, 1860, which was agreed to.

On *Saturday*,, the Senate passed the Naval Appropriation bill, and discharged the Conference Committee on the Deficiency bill, they being unable to agree upon the amendments The Indian Appropriation bill was discussed, and a large number of memorials on the crisis were presented.

HOUSE PROCEEDINGS.

On *Tuesday*, Mr. Taylor, of Louisiana, announced the secession of his State, and made a farewell speech—in which he was considerably interrupted by the raising of points of order, and inquiries relative to the late seizure of Government property in New Orleans and elsewhere. Subsequently, Mr. Bouligny, of Louisiana, asked leave to make an explanation, and leave being granted, he proceeded to announce that until he received instructions from his immediate constituents to withdraw, he should continue to occupy a seat in the House, and when he did withdraw he should also resign his seat. Furthermore, he announced that he should continue to be a Union man, and should "stand under the flag of the country that gave him birth." His remarks were received with a burst of enthusiasm on the floor and in the galleries. The action of the Committee of the Whole on the amendments to the Deficiency bill were concurred in. Mr. Colfax then called up his bill authorizing the Postmaster General to suspend postal facilities in the seceding States, and speeches were made on it by Messrs. Branch, of North Carolina, and Sickles, of New York—the former in opposition to, and the latter in favor of it. Mr. Sickles, in the course of his remarks, was very severe on Mayor Wood, in reference to his telegraphic note in answer to one sent him by Mr. Toombs. The report of the Committee of Thirty-three was then considered until the recess. An evening session was held for general debate.

On *Wednesday*, a message was received from the President, enclosing the resolution of the Kentucky Legislature, which asks Congress to call a national convention, etc. Several memorials and petitions were presented. The Senate's amendment to the Loan bill was taken up, and, after some little discussion, was rejected, and a request was sent to the Senate for a Committee of Conference on the subject. The bill relative to the postal service was called up and passed. The bill gives the Postmaster General power to stop a post-office, post route, or part of a post route, when he may think that the postal laws may not be maintained. The revenue collected on the contents of the mail remain inviolate till it reaches its proper address. The consideration of the report of the Committe of Thirty-three was resumed, and speeches made by Messrs. Humphreys, of New York, and Harris, of Virginia. The House then took a recess till seven o'clock. In the evening session the debate was continued by Messrs. Maynard, of Tennessee, and Wells, of New York, after which the House finally adjourned.

On *Thursday*, the bill passed last session by the Senate, in relation to the re-organization of the Patent Office and amending the patent laws, was passed after being amended. The consideration of the report of the Committee of Thirty-three was resumed, and Mr. Corwin stated that he would postpone his motion to close the debate till Tuesday next. Mr. Davis, of Maryland, then took the floor, and in the course of his remarks pledged Maryland for the Union; he was several times interrupted by Mr. Kunkel, of that State. He was followed by Mr. Sedgwick, of New York. Mr. Vallandigham, of Ohio, presented a proposition for the amendment of the Constitution; it provides for the division of the United States into four sections, increases the term of the President and Vice President from four to six years, etc. A joint resolution was passed authorizing Lieutenant Craven to receive from the Spanish government a medal and diploma for services rendered to the seamen of a wrecked vessel. Mr. Sickles, of New York, asked leave to introduce, and Mr. Cralge, of North Carhlina, objected, a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the House whether the duties on imports continue to be collected in the various ports of South Carolina, Louisiana, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida. The House then took a recess till 7 P. M. In the evening, there being about a dozen members present, the time was spent in making speeches.

On *Friday*, the bill for the adjustment of the claims of the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, under the treaty with Great Britain, was passed. It authorizes persons residing in Washington Territory within one year to make application for the confirmation of their title to the land claimed by them. The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President endorsing the correspondence with Col Hayne. It was referred to a Select Committee of five, and ordered to be printed. The rest of the day was consumed in general political debate.

On *Saturday*, Mr. John Cochrane offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the House whether any information has been received by the department relative to the recent alleged seizure in New York vessels at the port of Savannah, and, if seized, by whom, and by what authority. An amendment to extend the inquiry so as to include the facts relative to the seizure of arms in New York was accepted. The proposition was objected to, but will be renewed on tomorrow. The remainder of the session was devoted to debate on the crisis. A vote on the report of the Committee of Thirty-three will be taken on Thursday.

CALIFORNIA.

The Pony Express which left San Francisco on the afternoon of the 23d January, announces the sailing of the Uncle Sam from the Panama having on board $1,044,000 in treasure for New York.

GENERAL NEWS.—The Legislature has done little as yet.

Three sets of Union resolutions have been introduced, with the view of disposing of that subject before electing a U S Senator.

The Douglas Democrats appear to be divided—a part favoring coalition with the Republicans to elect a Senator, and a part favoring a similar coalition with the Breckinridge wing.

The Republicans propose giving Mr. Sibley, who ran for Congress in 1857, a complimentary vote for Senator, with a view of aiding him in his aspirations for appointment as U. S. Minister to Chili.

To day all the Senatorial candidates have been invited to address the Legislature on Saturday evening.

A grand military Union demonstration is in preparation in San Francisco, to take place on the 22d of February.

THE ARTESIAN WELL AT COLUMBUS, OHIO.—This well, having reached a depth of 2,775 4-10 feet, and no water being obtained, the work on it has been suspended. A current of water was struck at 150 feet, sulphur water at 180 and salt water at 675 feet; but none of this water rose to the surface. Dr. Newberry, who has made a geological examination of the materials brought up by the borings, gives a discouraging report in regard to the prospect of finding water by a continuation of the work. The temperature of the well at 2,475 feet was found to be 88 deg. Fah., showing an increase of temperature of one degree for every 71 feet.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

By the arrival at New York of the Steamship Canada at Halifax, we have advices from Europe two days later than were brought by the Anglo-Saxon at Portland. The steamship Vigo has also arrived at that port, but her advices are not so late by one day as those by the Portland steamer. The Canada's news is not especially important. The prospectus of an India Cotton Company had been issued in Great Britain, the object of which was to establish agencies in the cotton region of India, to purchase the article from the growers direct, and to endeavor to improve the process of picking and cleansing by machinery. The bombardment of Gaeta still continued vigorously, and was still feebly replied to. Military preparations still continued on a large scale in France, and it was stated that an immense camp was to be established at Chalons early in the spring. Later advices from China inform us that a great part of the allied expeditionary forces had reached Hong Kong.

THE SECEDERS' CONGRESS.

A Provisional Government Established—Hon. Jeff. Davis Elected President—Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, Vice President.

MONTGOMERY, Feb. 9—The Congress of seceding States has been in session four days. Howell Cobb, of Georgia, was appointed its President.

Mr. Cobb, on taking the chair, addressed the Convention as follows:

Accept, gentlemen of the Convention, my sincere thanks for the honor which you have conferred on me. I shall endeavor, by a faithful and impartial discharge of the duties of the chair, to merit, in some degree at least, the confidence which you have reposed in me.

The occasion which assembles us together is one of no ordinary character. We meet as the representatives of sovereign, independent States, who, by their solemn judgment, have dissolved all the political associations which connected them with the Government of the United States. Of the causes which have led to this decision it is unnecessary now to speak. It is enough to announce that, by the judgment of our constituents, they have been ample and sufficient. It is now a fixed, irrevocable fact—the separation is perfect, complete and perpetual. [Applause.]

The great duty is now imposed upon us to provide for these States a Government for their future security and protection. We can and should extend to our sister States—our late sister States—who are identified with us in interest, feeling, and institutions, a cordial invitation to unite with us in a common destiny, desirous, at the same time, of maintaining with the rest of our late confederates, as with the world, the most peaceful and friendly relations, both political and commercial. Our responsibilities, gentlemen, are great, and I doubt not we shall prove equal to the occasion. Let us assume all the responsibility which may be necessary for the successful completion of the great work committed to our trust, placing before our countrymen and the world our acts and their results, as the justification of the course which we may pursue and adopt. With a consciousness of the justice of our cause and with a confidence in the guidance and blessings of a kind Providence, we will, this day, inaugurate for the South a new era of peace, security, and prosperity. [Applause.]

The Convention was then duly organized.

The Congress last night, in secret session, unanimously agreed on the Constitution and the creation of a Provisional Government. A strong and vigorous government will go into immediate operation, with full powers and ample funds. No proposition for compromise or reconstruction will be entertained. The Congress will remain in session to make all the necessary laws.

To-day a committee was appointed to report on the flag, seal of arms, and motto for the Confederacy.

The President was directed to appoint a Committee on Foreign Affairs, on Finance, on Military and Naval Affairs, on Postal Affairs, on Commerce and on Patents.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of the Executive officers of the new Government, with the following result:

For President of "the Confederated States of North America," Hon. Jefferson Davis received the unanimous vote of the Convention.

For Vice-President, Hon. Alexander H. Stephens was elected.

A resolution was adopted appointing a committee of three of the Alabama deputies to inquire and report on what terms suitable buildings in Montgomery can be secured for the use of the several executive departments of the Confederacy under the Provisional Government.

An ordinance was passed continuing in force, until repealed or altered by Congress, all laws of the United States now in force or use, till the first of November, subject to the Constitution of the Provisional Government. It is understood that under this law a tariff is to be laid on all goods brought from the United States.

A resolution was adopted, instructing the Committee on Finance to report promptly a tariff for raising revenue to support the Government.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the appointment of a committee to report a Constitution for the permanent government of the Confederacy.

The Congress was about two hours in secret session, and the rest of the day in open session.

The Constitution of the Provisional Government has been printed, and is now made public.

The preamble says: "We, the deputies of the Sovereign and Independent States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, invoking the favor of Almighty God, do hereby, in behalf of these States, ordain and establish this Constitution for the Provisional Government of the same, to continue for one year from the inauguration of the President, or until a permanent Constitution or Confederation between said States shall be put in operation—whichsoever shall first occur."

The seventh section of the first article reads: "The importation of African negroes from any foreign country, other than the slaveholding States, is hereby forbidden, and Congress is required to pass such laws as shall effectually prevent the same."

The second section reads: "The Congress shall, also, have power to prohibit the introduction of slaves from any State not a member of this Confederacy.

Article fourth, third clause of the second section, reads: "A slave in one State escaping to another shall be delivered up on the claim of the party to whom the said slave may belong, by the Executive authority of the State in which such slave may be found; and in case of any abduction or forcible rescue full compensation, including the value of slave, and all costs and expenses, shall be made to the party by the State in which such abduction or rescue shall take place."

Article sixth, second clause, reads:—"The Government hereby instituted shall take immediate steps for the settlement of all matters between the States forming it and their other late confederates of the United States, in relation to the public property and the public debt at the time of their withdrawal from them; these States hereby declaring it to be their wish and earnest desire to adjust everything pertaining to the common property, the common liability and the common obligations of that Union upon the principles of right, justice, equality and good faith."

The other portions of this Provisional Constitution are almost identical with the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. Stephens made an eloquent speech in return for a serenade. Speeches were also made by Messrs. Chesnut and Keitt, of South Carolina, Conrad, of Louisiana, and others.

A salute of a hundred guns was fired on Capitol Hill this afternoon.

THE CENSUS OF 1860.

The Free and Slave Populations of the United States.

FREE STATES.

	1850.	1860.	Inc'se.
Maine	583,169	619,958	36,789
New Hampshire	317,976	326,072	8,096
Vermont	314,120	325,827	10,707
Massachusetts	994,514	1,231,494	236,980
Rhode Island	147,545	174,721	27,076
Connecticut	370,972	460,670	89,698
New York	3,097,394	3,851,563	754,169
Pennsylvania	2,311,786	2,916,018	604,232
New Jersey	489,555	676,034	186,479
Ohio	1,980,329	2,377,917	397,588
Indiana	988,416	1,350,802	362,386
Illinois	851,470	1,691,238	839,768
Michigan	397,654	754,291	356,737
Wisconsin	305,391	763,485	458,094
Iowa	192,214	682,002	489,788
Minnesota	6,077	172,796	166,719
Oregon	13,294	52,566	39,272
California	92,597	384,770	292,173
Total	13,454,473	18,802,124	5,347,651

SLAVE STATES.

	1850.	1860.	Inc'se.
Delaware	91,532	112,353	20,821
Maryland	583,034	731,565	148,531
Virginia	1,421,661	1,593,199	171,538
North Carolina	869,039	1,008,342	139,303
South Carolina	668,507	715,371	46,864
Georgia	906,185	1,082,827	176,642
Florida	87,445	145,694	58,249
Alabama	771,623	955,917	184,294
Mississippi	606,526	886,658	280,132
Louisiana	517,762	666,431	148,669
Arkansas	209,897	440,775	230,878
Texas	212,592	600,955	488,363
Tennessee	1,002,717	1,146,690	133,973
Kentucky	982,405	1,145,567	163,152
Missouri	682,044	1,201,214	519,170
Total	9,612,969	12,433,508	2,820,539

TERRITORIES, &c.

	1850.	1860.
Kansas	—	143,645
Nebraska	—	28,892
New Mexico	61,547	93,024
Utah	11,380	49,000
Dacotah	—	4,839
Washington	—	11,624
Dis. of Columbia	51,687	75,321
Total	124,614	406,345

RECAPITULATION.

	1850.	1860.	Increase.
Free States	13,454,473	18,302,124	5,347,651
Slave States	9,612,969	12,433,508	2,820,539
Territories, &c.	124,614	406,345	381,731
Total	23,192,056	31,641,977	8,449,921

The following table shows the proportion of slave to free population in the different States in 1850 and 1860:

	1850.		1860.	
	Free.	Slave.	Free.	Slave.
Delaware	89,242	2,290	110,548	1,805
Maryland	492,666	90,368	646,183	85,382
Virginia	949,133	472,528	1,097,373	495,826
N. Carolina	580,491	288,548	679,965	328,377
S. Carolina	283,523	374,984	308,186	407,185
Georgia	524,503	381,682	615,366	467,461
Florida	48,135	39,309	81,885	63,809
Alabama	428,731	342,892	520,444	435,473
Mississippi	296,648	309,878	407,051	479,607
Louisiana	272,953	244,809	354,245	312,186
Arkansas	162,797	47,100	331,710	109,065
Texas	154,431	58,161	415,999	184,956
Tennessee	763,154	239,460	859,578	287,112
Kentucky	771,424	210,981	950,077	225,490
Missouri	594,622	87,422	1,085,595	115,619
Total	6,412,453	3,200,412	8,434,155	3,999,353

SPECIAL MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

The Correspondence with Col. Hayne.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8th.—The President of the United States, in the message which he transmitted to the House to-day, says that all the correspondence which occurred in December last, between the Commissioners of South Carolina and himself was sent in with his message on the 6th of January.

On the 14th of that month, Colonel Hayne called and informed him that he was the bearer of a letter from Governor Pickens, which he would deliver on the next day. He was, however, induced, by the interposition of Hon. Jefferson Davis and nine other Senators from the seceded and seceding States, not to deliver it on the day appointed, nor was it communicated to the President until the 31st of January, with his (Col. Hayne's) letter of that date. Their letter to Col. Hayne, urging this delay, bears the date of January 15th, and was the commencement of a correspondence, the whole of which, in the President's possession, he now submits to Congress. The most of these letters have been recently published. The following is the concluding part of Col. Hayne's letter, dated the 31st of January.

"I advert to this point for the purpose of saying that to send reinforcements to Fort Sumter could not serve as a means of protecting and preserving property, for, as must be known to your government, it would inevitably lead to immediate hostilities, in which property on all sides would necessarily suffer. South Carolina has every disposition to preserve the public peace, and feels, I am sure, in full force those high Christian and moral duties referred to by your Secretary, and it is submitted that, on her part, there is scarcely any consideration of mere property, apart from honor and safety, which could induce her to do aught to prevent that peace—still less to inaugurate a protracted and bloody civil war. She rests her position on something higher than mere property. It is a consideration of her own dignity as a sovereign and the safety of her people, which prompts her to demand that this property should not longer be used as a military post by a government she no longer acknowledges. She feels this to be an imperative duty. It has, in fact, become an absolute necessity of her condition.

"Repudiating as you do the idea of coercion, avowing pacific intentions and expressing a patriotic terror for civil war and bloody strife among those who once were brethren, it is hoped that, on further consideration, you will not, on a mere question of property, refuse the reasonable demand of South Carolina, which honor and necessity alike compel her to indicate Should you disappoint this hope, the responsibility for the result surely does not rest with her. If the evils of war are to be encountered, especially the calamities of a civil war, an elevated statesmanship would seem to require that it should be accepted as the unavoidable alternative of something more disastrous, such as national dishonor; and as a measure materially affecting the safety and permanent interests of a people, that it should be a choice deliberately made and entered upon. War, if it should be the incident or accident attendant on a policy professedly peaceful, and not required to effect the object which is avowed as the only end intended, can only be excused where there has been no warning given as to the consequences. I am further instructed to say that South Carolina cannot, by her silence, appear to acquiesce in the imputation that she was guilty of an act of unprovoked aggression in firing on the Star of the West, though an unarmed vessel. She was filled with armed men, entering her territories, against her will, with the purpose of reinforcing a garrison held within her limits against her protest. She forbears to recriminate by discussing the question of the propriety of attempting such a reinforcement at all, as well as of the disguised and secret manner in which it was intended to be effected. And on this occasion she will say nothing of the manner in which Fort Sumter was taken into the possession of its present occupants. The interposition of the Senators who have addressed you was a circumstance unexpected by my Government, and unsolicited, certainly, by me. The Governor, while he appreciates the high and generous motives by which they were prompted, and while he fully approves of the delay which, in deference to them, has taken place in the presentation of this demand, feels that it cannot longer be withheld. I conclude with an extract from the instructions just received by me from the government of South Carolina."

The following are the instructions referred to, to which the letter of the President, through Mr. Holt, may be received as a reply:

"You were instructed to ask as to his (the President's) assertion of his right to send reinforcements to Fort Sumter.

"You were instructed to say to him that, if he asserted that right, that the State of South Carolina regarded such a right, when asserted or with an attempt at its exercise, as a declaration of war. If the President intends that it shall not be so understood, it is proper, to avoid any misconception hereafter, that he should be informed of the manner in which the Governor will feel bound to regard it.

"If the President, when you have stated the reasons which prompt the Governor in making the demand for the delivery of Fort Sumter, upon the pledge you have been authorized to make, shall refuse to do so, you will communicate that refusal without delay to the Governor. If the President is not prepared to give you an immediate answer, you will communicate to him that his answer may be transmitted within a reasonable time to the Government, at this place, (Charleston). The Governor does not consider it necessary that you (I) should remain longer in Washington than is necessary to execute this—the closing duty your (my) mission in the manner now indicated to you (me). As soon as the Governor shall receive from you the information that you have closed your mission, and the reply, whatever it may be, of the President, he will consider the conduct which will be necessary on his part."

"Allow me to request that you would, as soon as possible, inform me, whether, under these instructions, I await your answer in Washington; and if not, I would be pleased to convey from you to my Government the information as the time when an answer may be expected in Charleston."

THE REPLY OF THE EXECUTIVE.

The following is Secretary Holt's reply:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Feb. 6th, 1861.

SIR:—The President has received your letter of the 31st ult., and has charged me with the duty of replying thereto. In the communication addressed to the President by Governor Pickens, under date of 12th of January, and which accompanied yours now before me, His Excellency says:—"I have determined to send to you the Hon. J. W. Hayne, the Attorney General of the State of South Carolina, and have instructed him to demand the surrender of Fort Sumter, in the harbor of Charleston, to the constituted authorities of South Carolina. The demand I have made of Maj. Anderson, and which I now make of you, is suggested because of my earnest desire to avoid the bloodshed which a persistence in your attempt to retain the possession of that fort will cause, and which will be unavailing to secure to you that possession, but induce a calamity most deeply to be deplored."

The character of the demand thus authorized to be made, appears under the influence, I presume, of the correspondence with the Senators to which you refer, to have been modified by the subsequent instructions of his excellency, dated the 26th, and received by yourself on the 30th of January, in which he says:—"If it be so that Fort Sumter is held as property, then, as property, rights, whatever they may be, of the United States, can be ascertained and for the satisfaction of these rights, and the pledge of the State of South Carolina, you are authorized to give the full scope and precise purport of your instructions as thus modified."

You have expressed yourself in the following words: "I do not come here as a military man, to demand the surrender of a fortress, but as the legal officer of the State—its Attorney General—to claim for the State the exercise of its undoubted right of eminent domain; and to pledge the State to make good all injury to the rights of property which arise from the exercise of the claim." And, lest this explicit language should not sufficiently define your position, you add: "The proposition now is that, her (South Carolina) law officers should, under the authority of the Governor and his Council, distinctly pledge the faith of South Carolina to make such compensation in regard to Fort Sumter and its appurtenances and contents, to the full extent of the money value of the property of the United States when it shall be delivered over to the authorities of South Carolina by your command."

You then adopt his Excellency's train of thought upon the subject so far as to suggest that the possession of Fort Sumter by the United States, if continued long enough, must lead to a collision, and that an attack upon it would scarcely improve it as property, whatever the result, and if captured, it would no longer be the subject of an account.

The proposal, then, now presented to the President is simply an offer on the part of South Carolina to buy Fort Sumter and its contents, as the property of the United States, sustained by a declaration to the effect that if she is not permitted to make the purchase she will seize the fort by force of arms. As the invitation of a negotiation for the transfer of property between friendly governments, this proposal impresses the President as having assumed a most unusual form. He has, however, investigated the claim on which it professes to be based, apart from the declaration that accompanies it.

And it may be here remarked that much stress has been laid upon the employment of the words property and public property by the President in his several messages. These are the most comprehensive terms which can be used in such a connection, and surely when referring to a fort or any other public establishment, they embrace the entire and undivided interest of the Government therein. The title of the United States to Fort Sumter is complete and incontestible. Were its interests in this property proprietary in the ordinary acceptance of the term, it might probably be subjected to the exercise of the right of eminent domain. But it has also political relations attached to it of a much higher and more imposing chracter than those of mere proprietorship. It has absolute jurisdiction over the fort and the soil on which it stands; this jurisdiction consists in the authority to exercise exclusive legislation over the property referred to, and is, therefore, clearly incompatible with the claims of eminent domain now insisted upon by South Carolina; this authority was not derived from any questionable revolutionary source, but from the peaceful cession by South Carolina herself, acting through her Legislature. Under a provision of the Constitution of the United States, South Carolina can no more assert the right of eminent domain over Fort Sumter than Maryland can assert it over the District of Columbia, the political and proprietary rights of the United, in either case, rests upon precisely the same ground.

The President, however, is relieved from the necessity of further pursuing this inquiry by the fact that, whatever may be the claim of South Carolina to this fort, he has no Constitutional power to cede or surrender it. The property has been acquired by the force of public law, and can only be disposed under the same solemn sanctions. The President, as the head of the Executive branch of the Government only, can no more sell and transfer Fort Sumter to South Carolina, than he can sell and convey the Capitol of the United States to Maryland, or to any other State or individual seeking to possess it. His Excellency, the Governor, is too familiar with the Constitution of the United States, and with the limitations upon the powers of the Chief Magistrate of the Government it has established, not to appreciate at once the soundness of this legal proposition.

The question of re-enforcing Fort Sumter is so fully disposed of in my letter to Senator Slidell and others, under date of the 22d of January, a copy of which accompanies this, that its discussion will not be renewed. I then said: "At the present moment it is not deemed necessary to reinforce Major Anderson, because he makes no such request. Should his safety, however, require reinforcements, every effort will be made to supply them."

I can add nothing to the explicitness of this language, which still applies to the existing *status*. The right to send forward reinforcements, when in the judgment of the President the safety of the garrison requires it, then rests on the same unquestionable foundation as the right to occupy the fortress itself.

In the letter of Senator Davis and others to yourself, under date of the 15th ult., they say: "We, therefore, think it especially due from South Carolina to our State, to say nothing of the other slaveholding States, that she should, as far as she can consistently with her honor, avoid initiating hostilities between her and the United States or any other Power." And you now, yourself, give the President the gratifying assurance that South Carolina has every disposition to preserve the public peace. And since he is himself sincerely animated by the same desire, it would seem that this common and patriotic object must be of certain attainment.

It is difficult, however to reconcile with this assurance the declaration on your part, that 'It is a consideration of her (South Carolina's) own dignity as a sovereign, and the safety of her people which prompts her to demand that this property should not longer be used as a military post by a Government she no longer acknowledges." The thought you so constantly present is, that this occupation must lead to a collision of arms and the prevalence of civil war. Fort Sumter is in itself a military post, and nothing else, and it would seem that not so much the fort as the purpose of its use should give to it a hostile or friendly character. This fortress is now held by the government of the United States for the same objects for which it has been held from the completion of its construction. These are national and defensive, and were a public enemy now to attempt the capture of Charleston or the destruction of the commerce of its harbor, the whole force of the batteries of this fortress would be at once exerted for their protection. How the presence of a small garrison, actuated by such a spirit as this, can compromise the dignity or honor of South Carolina or become a source of irritation to her people, the President is at a loss to understand. The attitude of that garrison, as has been often declared, is neither menacing, nor defiant, nor unfriendly. It is acting under orders to stand strictly on the defensive, and the Government and the people of South Carolina must well know that they can never receive aught but shelter from its guns, unless, in the absence of all provocation, they shall assault and seek its destruction. The intent with which this fortress is held by the President is truthfully stated by Senator Davis and others, in their letter to yourself of the 15th of January, in which they say that it is not held with any hostile or unfriendly purpose toward your State, but merely as the property of the United States, which the President deems it his duty to protect and preserve. If the announcement, as repeatedly made of the President's pacific purpose in continuing the occupation of Fort Sumter until the question shall have been settled by competent authority, has failed to impress the government of South Carolina, the forbearing conduct of his Administration for the last few months should be received as conclusive evidence of his sincerity. And if this forbearance in view of the circumstances which have so severely tried it, be not accepted as a satisfactory pledge of the peaceful policy of this administration towards South Carolina, then it may be safely affirmed that neither language nor conduct can possibly furnish one. If with all the multiplied proofs which exist of the President's anxiety for peace and of the earnestness with which he has pursued it, the authorities of that State shall assault Fort Sumter and peril the lives of the handful of brave and loyal men shut up within its walls, and thus plunge our common country into the horrors of civil war, then upon them and those they represent must rest the responsibility.

Very respectfully, your obt servant,

J. HOLT, Secretary of War.

Hon J. W Hayne, Attorney General of the State of South Carolina.

MUCH IN LITTLE.

A TENNESSEE SHERIFF ABSCONDS WITH $100,000—The Nashville Banner of the 26th ult. says: "We learned yesterday from a citizen of Columbia, that the community of Maury county have just been subjected to a wholesale swindle by a deputy sheriff, who absconded on Monday week with over $100,000. The means adopted by the swindler were very novel and deliberate. He forged judgments upon good men in the county, and sold them to capitalists at a discount of twenty five per cent, at the same time agreeing to collect them without charge. He was engaged for several weeks in selling these fictitious judgments. Shortly before he left, he also borrowed money from several parties.

SHORT-LIVED HONEYMOON.—A Miss White, says the Harrisburg Telegraph, of M'Kean, who was married to a gentleman from Mississippi, a few weeks ago, and accompanied her husband to that State, which she intended making her future residence, returned to Harrisburg on Tuesday afternoon, having been ordered to leave the Southern domain at a certain date, before the expiration of ten hours. It seems that she made too free use of her Northern sentiments. What was done with the husband we do not learn.

PAGANISM DECLINING.—A traveller from Madras to Jaffna states that but few of the Heathen temples that he passed were in good repair. Many idol cars which used to be drawn about with great pomp and parade, are so neglected and decayed, that they are only fit for firewood. The impression is steadily gaining ground among the people that their idolatrous system has had its day. The Christian missionaries have now a fairer field of usefulness than ever before.

SUSPICIONS OF FOUL PLAY.—On Sunday last the dead body of a man was found near the mouth of a rivulet on the road to Belair, Ohio, near the Cleveland and Pittsburg railroad depot, which had evidently been buried, but had been again exposed by the rain washing away the earth around it. There was nothing to indicate who or what he might have been, but suspicions of foul play were generally entertained.

HEAVY ROBBERY IN PITTSBURG, PA—On Tuesday night, the dry goods store, of W. Frank, of Pittsburg, Pa, was entered, and goods of the value of $3,000 were carried off. This makes the *third* heavy robbery perpetrated in this city, within a few weeks, and all without the slightest clue to the discovery of the guilty parties.

DISTRESSING CASUALTY.—*A Husband Kills his Wife Accidentally.*—Mr. John Ellis, a resident of Chaptico district, St. Mary's county, accidentally shot and killed his wife on Saturday last. They had been playfully snapping at each other a pistol which was supposed to be unloaded, when finally the weapon was discharged when in the husband's hands, and the ball, entering the breast of Mrs. Ellis, caused her almost instantaneous death.

A YOUNG LADY of Cincinnati, relative to Lord Dalton, recently deceased in England, is one of the heirs of his immense property, amounting to about £9,000,000, or $45,000,000. Her portion will make a respectable dowry. Here, then, is a chance for some ambitious young gentleman to form a very convenient alliance for life

THE LARGEST TREE in Massachusetts is said to be an elm, situated upon the Hubbard farm, in North Andover. It is one hundred and ten feet in height, and its branches spread one hundred feet in width. Its girth, at six feet from the ground, measures twenty-two and a half feet.

WHOLESALE POISONING.—Twenty-three persons were poisoned at a sailor's boarding-house in New Orleans on Monday last, by the cook mixing arsenic with the corn bread eaten at breakfast. So much of the drug was used, however, that the deed was overdone. It produced violent purging and vomiting, and the sufferers are represented as being in a fair way of recovery.

LIBERIA SUPPRESSING THE SLAVE TRADE.—Letters from Liberia to the 15th of December have been received. The schooner Quail, belonging to the republic, had arrived at Monrovia from Gallinas, bringing with her two slave schooners as prizes to the Liberian republic.

COTTON SEED GAS.—The Rev. Dr. Porter, of Chelsea, Tenn., has discovered that a superior quality of gas can be made of cotton seed, with the addition of a little rosin. His church and dwelling are lighted with it at a trifling cost. The gas is prepared by a very simple process.

MR THOMASON, a very wealthy and extensive manufacturer of cotton goods at Bolton, England, has invited his working people to invest their savings of wages with him, and share in the profits arising out of his manufactories. This is a noble proposition.

MURDER OF AN ACTRESS.—M'lle Zove, a young actress of great beauty, was murdered in her room, at the Theatre Imperial, of Paris, on the 11th of January. The Count de Poligny, a rich young officer of the Guard, was charged with complicity in the murder.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA RAILROAD.—By the annual report of the South Carolina Railroad, it appears that the income of the year, as compared with that of 1859, has suffered a diminution of $97,000. The receipts of cotton are 78,771 bales less than in 1859.

THE MONARCH TREE of the Sierra Nevada, California, known as the "Miner's Cabin," was blown down by the hurricane of the 14th ult. It was 30 feet in diameter, and supposed to be 3000 years old.

PEPPERMINT, as an article of commerce is largely grown in Lake county, Ohio. This year over $4000 has been paid to the producers of this article, and in Painsville the oil is worth $12 50 per gallon.

HOG-PACKING IN CHICAGO, ILL.—About 200,000 hogs have been packed in Chicago, Illinois, this season, and from 30,000 to 40,000 more will be packed. In 1859-60 there were packed in Chicago 176 918 hogs, and in 1858-9, 185,000.

LONGING FOR VERY OLD AGE.—Heber C. Kimball, one of the Mormon Elders, says he wants to live to see "the righteous root out wickedness."

THE SOUTH CAROLINIANS not only have Yankee arms in their hands when they muster in warlike parade, but Yankee arms around their necks in the privacy of their own homes.

"YOU WANT NOTHING, DO YOU?" said Pat. "Bedad, if it's nothing you want, you'll find it in the jug where the whisky was."

FROM FORT SUMTER.

Arrival of the Marion from Charleston.

INSTANT RELIEF REQUIRED.

Return of the Women and Children.

The steamship Marion, Captain Adkins, has arrived at New York, from Charleston. She brings as passengers the wives and children of the garrison at Fort Sumter. All these families have been sent home by direction of Major Anderson, in order to place them in safety. The garrison is now fully prepared for any attack that may be made by the South Carolinians.

Of the whole number of persons who are thus returned to the city, *twenty-five* are children. The following is a full list:

Mrs. S. A Cox and child, C. W. Hersey, Felix Rafferty, Robert Jackson, George Leighton, George Stenhouse, Samuel N. Holmes, H. H. Safford, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Whitesfield, Mrs. Hanmer and two children, Miss Smythe, G. Patterson, John Hasberon, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Neilen and three children, Mrs. Burns, Miss Burns, Mrs. Galway and two children, Mrs. Smith and two children, Mrs. Ronihan and two children, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. McDonnell and two children, Mrs. Carroll and three children, Mrs. McMa n and three children, Mrs. Rice and one child, Mrs. Murphy and one child, Mrs Davis and one child, Mrs. Strand and one child, Mrs. Sheaverer and one child, Sam'l Simon, and six in the steerage. Total 62.

STATEMENT OF THE SOLDIERS' WIVES.

From a conversation with several of the wives of the Fort Sumter heroes, we learn interesting details about the condition of affairs at the fort.

In the first place the provisions are nearly out. The garrison is reduced to supplies of flour and pork. They are not allowed to get anything from Charleston either in the way of edibles or clothing, and since Major Anderson declined to receive the meat and vegetables offered him by Governor Pickens, it appears to be the determination of the Charlestonians to starve the garrison out. "They will not sell us a single thing," said one of the women, "not even a pair of shoes for our children or medicine for our sick."

THE PROPOSED ATTACK.

The garrison are fully aware that preparations are making for an attack on the fort, and they understand that the great floating battery is nearly ready. It is said to be impervious to the shot from the fort. Extra watch is kept night and day, and many a weary eye is turned daily towards the entrance of the harbor to catch the first glimpse of the hoped-for vessel with reinforcements.

THE FEELING IN THE FORT.

Not one of the garrison has deserted or attempted to escape. They are all firm and cheerful, ready to resist an attack, but they do not for a moment suppose that they—seventy-nine in number—will be left by the Federal Government to resist all South Carolina. They would prefer an attack to being starved out.

THE STAR OF THE WEST.

On the occasion of her attempt to reach the fort, was anxiously watched; but her errand was not known till she turned to depart. Major Anderson would have certainly opened fire on Moultrie had he be understood that the vessel was bound for Sumter.

THE SOLDIERS' WIVES

left Fort Sumter on Friday last, and were taken in small boats direct to the Marion. But owing to high winds that steamer did not leave port till Sunday noon. As she passed the fort, the soldiers all came out on the battlements, waved their farewells to their wives and children, cheered them lustily, and fired a parting gun. The farewells were returned from the steamer, and the scene was thrilling and affecting.

PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE

is ruthlessly violated at Charleston. No letter arrives at Fort Sumter that has not been opened by the authorities. Newspapers are allowed to reach the fort.

The indignation against the Federal Government is very deep among the women from Fort Sumter. "We had to leave our husbands," they say, "because there was not food enough for us all. And now the Government is sacrificing all these brave men without remorse."

Many of the women were in tears, and they eagerly asked our reporter for the latest news from Washington. The information that Congress intended to stop postal communication with the seceding States was not received with favor.

THE REINFORCEMENT

The recent report of the reinforcement of Fort Sumter is wholly incorrect, unless it occurred since Sunday night. When the Marion left Charleston, there was only the regular garrison in the fort.

CITY MATTERS.

HORSE TAMING EXHIBITION.

On last Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, Mr. John S. Rarey exhibited to a Philadelphia audience his system of taming horses. The Academy of Music was crowded to such an extent as is seldom seen, even when a favorite opera is the attraction. The audience was made up of both sexes, and in one of the boxes we noticed a party in full operatic costume. The stage was "set" with a forest scene, and a plot was fenced in with ropes and the floor covered with straw, and in this enclosure the system was practically illustrated.

Mr. Rarey at first delivered a short lecture, explaining that the whole secret of his success was kindness, and he asserted his ability to tame the most savage horse in the world. "Cruiser" was instanced as an example of the efficiency of the system. For many years, "Cruiser" had been considered incorrigible. He was confined in a brick enclosure, as experience had demonstrated that no wooden structure would withstand his assaults. An iron muzzle was placed over his mouth, and stratagem had to be used in order to get this instrument affixed Now, that horse is as gentle as any horse that can be found.

"Cruiser" was then introduced, and he followed Mr. Rarey around the stage, stopping and going at the word of command, and allowing Mr. Rarey to lie between his feet.

A beautiful sorrel horse was now brought forward for the purpose of illustration. He was nervous, and Mr. R. stated that he had never seen him before. The mode adopted by Mr. Rarey has often been described, and it will suffice to say that, after going through a process of strapping one fore leg and then the other, the horse allowed his manipulator to travel over him, lie down with his feet on his face, and otherwise proved that he felt the presence of a master. Mr. Rarey explained he endeavored to make the horse understand that he meant no harm to him, and also compelled him to acknowledge his superior power. This was the of the horse's education, and after that there would be no difficulty with him.

A three year old stallion, much given to kicking and biting, was next introduced. This horse rejoices in the high sounding title of "Montezuma," and the owner, who was sitting in the orchestra, expressed his firm belief that the moment Mr. Rarey removed the muzzle which was then on he would bite. Mr. Rarey went through his performance, and soon compelled the horse to lie down; then he removed the straps and muzzle, and toyed with his feet, and finally placed his arm between the jaws of the animal.

A gray mare, represented by the owner as very vicious, and unwilling to have any person approach her hind legs. She had not been shod for several years, until finally a furrier undertook the job and accomplished it in about three hours, first tying the animal in such a manner as to make her helpless. On the stage the mare showed the same disinclination to be touched, and she made numerous efforts to damage Mr. Rarey with her hind legs, only each time he escaped by jumping nimbly to one side. But she succumbed, as the others had done, and finally allowed Mr. Rarey to stand by her and raise her feet at pleasure. This closed the performance, which gave great satisfaction.

FIRE AT THE PENITENTIARY.

On last Tuesday morning, one of the watchmen at the Eastern Penitentiary discovered flames bursting through a ventilator on the roof of a building at the extreme end of the northeast range of cells, constructed for a laundry, in one of the rooms of which a lot of clothing had been hung to dry. The keepers and other employees of the institution were aroused, and an attempt made to use a hand engine in the place, but without success, by reason of it having been so long laid up A force pump was afterwards put in operation, but the flames had got so much headway that it could not subdue them, and a number of firemen were admitted to aid in the work. Hose, too, was taken through the front gate, and water forced through it from a steam engine on Coates street. The fire was finally extinguished, after it had destroyed the drying room, and partially burnt the roof from the wash room, besides doing some damage to the roof of the corridor. The range of cells being, however, used for work-shops, and no prisoners being confined in them, none of the convicts had to be removed. A few were let out of their cells when the fire was discovered, to assist in its extinguishment, but they were locked up again before the firemen were admitted. The damage will not exceed three hundred dollars. There is no insurance on the buildings.

SHOCKING RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

On Wednesday night, an unknown white man was run over by a train of cars of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, at Twenty-second and Market streets. He was not seen by the persons on the train until he was under the horses' feet, and when it was too late to stop the cars. The whole train passed over him, cutting and crushing him in a shocking manner, and killing him instantly. The Coroner held an inquest on the body and a verdict of accidentally killed was rendered. Deceased was dressed in a dark coat, black satin vest and brown pantaloons with a red stripe down the legs. He had on a red striped calico shirt and Monroe shoes. It was supposed that he was from forty to forty-five years old. On his person was found a silver watch and a leather purse, containing a small sum.

THE COLDEST DAY OF THE WINTER.

On Friday morning the thermometer marked a temperature of one degree below zero, which was lower by one degree than on the morning of the 13th of January, the coldest day up to that period. By twelve o'clock on Friday the weather had only slightly moderated, the mercury being then but six degrees above zero. The change from noon on Thursday to six o'clock yesterday morning was very unusual, even for our variable latitude. In the twelve hours the mercury fell 47½ degrees, at the rate of nearly four degrees an hour. A few days of such weather as that of yesterday will enable our ice dealers to harvest a good crop, which they have not been able thus far to do. Very little, if any, ice has been gathered by them, and they began to think a supply would have to be obtained from the East.

SUICIDE.

Last Tuesday evening, a Mr. Fisher, residing in Leithgow street, committed suicide by hanging himself. The deceased leaves a family. The main cause assigned for the rash act was that he had been out of employment for some time. The Coroner was notified to hold an inquest.

ARMY AND NAVY.

Army and Navy Intelligence.

We have late and highly important news from the Home Squadron. On the 19th of January, the Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet received orders, through Col. Pickens, from Washington, to send immediately to Florida the U. S. steam-frigate Powhatan, the Sabine, and the sailing-corvette St. Louis. An official survey and general quarters, superintended by Flag Officer Prendergast was then held on the Cumberland corvette and the Sabine frigate. A sham battle was soon after improvised off Sacrificios, when the usual routine of action was gone through with. [It will be observed that the arrival at Vera Cruz of the Cumberland renders impossible the statements about her being near Pensacola, which have been made so often in Washington dispatches during the past week.—*Naval Reporter*.] A critical analysis of the condition of the squadron demonstrated the fact that every ship was short of provisions, and that it would be madness to send them on, probably, a hostile mission in such a state. The impression prevailed extensively, therefore, that the vessels would go to Havana or elsewhere, and then obey the instructions of Mr. Toucey. Serious disaffection existed among the officers of the Powhatan when her destination became known to them. The Purser, the Third Lieutenant and the First Lieutenant immediately tendered their resignations; but the Captain, while conditionally accepting them, refused to allow their return in the steamer. The most intense excitement existed in the entire squadron, and it was found necessary to issue an order prohibiting all officers, sailors, and marines from conveying political news of naval movements in their letters, as they would be opened and read: hence the false rumors of late.

The troops and ordinance, whose departure from here was announced on Saturday, arrived all well in Washington yesterday morning.

When Gen. Johnson assumes command of the California Department, the relieved officer, Col. Beall, resumes command of his regiment, the Third Dragoons. In the department of which the General takes command, there are 1550 troops, distributed as follows: One company (Sixth Infantry) in San Francisco harbor; staff, field, and one company of Third Artillery at the barracks; field and staff of Sixth Infantry at Benicia, which is garrisoned by companies C and K of that regiment; Company L, Third Artillery, at Umpqua; D Fourth Infantry, at Ferwan; B Sixth Infantry, at Humboldt; two companies, one of dragoons and one of infantry, at Crook; B, Fourth Infantry, at Gaston; D, Sixth Infantry, at Bragg; B and H, First Dragoons, at Tejon; C, Sixth Infantry, and C and E, Fourth Infantry, at Fort Yuma; F, Sixth Infantry, New San Diego; I, Sixth Infantry, and J, Fourth Infantry, Mohave; one company dragoons and two companies Sixth Infantry at Fort Churchill, and a small company in Honey Lake Valley. The headquarters of the Fourth Infantry have been removed from Vancouver to Dallas.—*New York Courier*.

THE FOLLOWING is a list of officers of the U. S. steamer Mohawk, just returned to New York from an eighteen months' cruise on the North coast of Cuba:

T. Augus Craven, Lieut. Commanding; A. Barbol, E. T. Spedden, and C. C. Carpenter, Lieutenants; C. Hatfield, Master; Delavan Bloodgood, Assistant Surgeon; J. S. Albert, E. L. Dich, and G. D. Emmons, Engineers; A. C. Craven, Captain's Clerk; J. H. Headley, Paymaster's Clerk; C. D. Humphrey, Master's Mate.

CAPTAIN JOHN POPE, of Augusta, Maine, who has been in command of the Portsmouth Navy Yard for the last three years, has been ordered to the command of the Richmond, of the Mediterranean squadron. Capt Pope entered the navy in May, 1816, and has been at sea since then twenty years and four months, during which period he has visited all quarters of the known world. A few years since he rendered efficient service while in command of a ship on the coast of China, in the war then existing with the pirates who infested that locality.

THE DOLLAR NEWSPAPER.

PHILADELPHIA:

Wednesday Morning, February 13, 1861.

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TO READERS AND WRITERS.

"THE FARMER BOY'S DREAM" is declined.

"THE DYING WARRIOR," "MIDNIGHT," "FALSE," "IMPOSSIBLE," and "AN ANGEL WHISPER," by "India," are all articles showing considerable ability, and we will try, as fast as convenient, to make room for them all.

"THE MINSTREL'S LAMENT," is smoothly versified, but can hardly be characterized as poetry.

"WHAT MAKES THE BLUE SKY SEEM" is declined.

"VALENTINE" will not do to print, though equal to much on the same subject that is printed.

"AN APPEAL," by O. C. W., is not only in excellent tone and temper, but admirably timed. It shall early find a place in our columns.

"I DREAMED A DREAM," by S. J. C. W., like all that emanates from her graceful pen, is welcome to our columns.

"LINES TO MY MOTHER" is declined, as are also "LINES," by C. H.

"WISDOM AND HEALTH," by "Harmodius," is accepted.

"QUEBEC," "DREAMING," "DEAREST," "BELOVED," "ENTRE NOUS," and "MINNIE AND I," by E. N. H., we have filed for publication as opportunities shall offer. ☞ The request in reference to an exchange of stories will be complied with.

"TRANSLATION FROM HORACE" we pass for the present.

"OLD LETTERS," by "Grace Livingston," we shall try to make room for soon.

SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY.

To-morrow will be St. Valentine's day, "all in the morning betimes," as the love-lorn Ophelia sings—the day, dear at once to lovers and pictorial practical jokers. Probably few will ask who St. Valentine was, and if they were to, it is possible that no answer given would be universally received as conclusively correct. When and where he lived, and when he died, are also points as widely disputed. It is pretty well agreed, however, that he was a worthy presbyter of the Church of Rome, and came to a violent end some time in the third century. We know, however, that all the learned disquisitions on the subject are summarily rejected by other antiquarian souls, who aver that St. Valentine was a very pretty young lady of the Court of St. Louis of France, who, being as cold and passionless as she was lovely, could never go out to take her walks abroad without finding the whole way strewn with *billet-doux* and amorous effusions; for the more she wouldn't fall in love with anybody, the more everybody was in love with her—

> "Till tired of courts and courtiers,
> She sought the cloister pale
> And calmly had her hair cut off,
> And grimly took the veil."

But after she got in, and couldn't get out, nor get any more love-letters, with the natural contrariety of woman, she went to the other extreme, and, instead of saying her beads, could think of nothing in the world but love and love-letters, and so fell into a decline and came to an early death. At last—

> "One night unto her pallet side,
> She called the nuns and said,
> 'No doubt they'll make a saint of me
> As soon as I am dead.
> 'Remember, sisters, if they do,
> The patron Saint I'll be
> Of lovers and of ladies, who
> Shall waring take b me.'"

On the first institution of the day, it was the custom to put the names of bachelors and maids in a box, and out of this lottery they drew for their sweethearts. Now-a-days the worship of St. Valentine is chiefly celebrated by buying sheets of paper disfigured by bad pictures and worse attempts at verse, and mystifying one's acquaintances by transmitting the same through the penny post or the post-office: original price of valentine one penny, and postage one penny more.

A Valentine—To Miss Blank.

BY SOMEBODY.

LADY—

> My dearest affections,
> (Gloves and moustaches and all?)
> Good looks in divers directions,
> (Being well framed and tall!)
> Heart full of warmest devotion,
> Heart that is loving and true,
> Thine in its every emotion,
> Take them, from—you know who!
>
> See at my feet all my treasures,
> (Meerschaum just colored, and cane;)
> Share with me all my pleasures,
> (I need not at present explain.)
> A thousand a year and increasing,
> I wish for your sake it were two,
> And the love of my heart never ceasing,
> Take them, from—you know who!
>
> Take—there's no use in writing,
> If your dear little heart cannot see
> That the object of all my inditing
> Is just to ask—*Will you have me?*
> Take me for worse or for better;—
> All that my darling need do
> Is just to put "yes" in a letter,
> And send it to—you know who!
>
> And then—you may think it strange love,
> But if you consent to take me,
> There's a sweet little law of exchange love,
> That's fair, as you'll presently see.
> In return for *my* love and duty,
> Don't you know what's expected of you?
> Your hand and your heart and your beauty,
> Is given to—you know who!
>
> Then darling, my darling, my blessing!
> Let me look for the postman to day;
> My excitement is getting distressing,
> While waiting to know what you'll say.
> Only tell me we never shall sever,
> But blend into *one* life our two;
> And St Valentine's sacred forever
> In the heart of glad—you know who!

THE HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION.

The semi-annual examination of the candidates from the Grammar Schools, for admission into the High School, closed last week. The total number of candidates was 177, of which 141 were admitted, the admitting average being 72. In the examination the Northwest leads off, as usual, in getting the greater number of pupils (21) into the school. The Mount Vernon comes next, having all its candidates, 17 in number, admitted. This is the largest number which has ever gone up from that school. The Locust street is third on the list, all its candidates (13) being admitted. The Zane st., Hancock, Jefferson, Morris, all stand well, and the Harrison has the highest admitting average. These examinations are the tests applied to the Grammar schools, shown more in the grade of scholarship than in the number of pupils, as the favorable or unfavorable location of a school affects the number of its applicants to the High School. The Grammar schools are the real colleges of the people, for there is where the greatest number of pupils receive the only school instruction they ever enjoy; but the High School is an important and valuable public institution, and is one of the main causes of the efficiency and standing of the Grammar schools. Without the High School, the system of public instruction would be incomplete, and the Grammar schools would gradually sink into the imperfect condition in which they were found when the High School was first established. Any one who remembers what that was will not be found an enemy to the High School. We believe it to be established on sound principles of public economy, and to be a valuable and important auxiliary to the system of public instruction which has been so wisely adopted in this State.

COAL ASHES.

Nothing is more annoying to the denizens of a city than to get rid of the coal ashes accumulating during the winter. Left upon the side-walks, the dust is blown into everybody's eyes by the high wind, or is upset into the streets to add to the mud usually covering them. Nobody seems to regard this refuse as of any utility. If it were applied to any useful purpose there would be no difficulty in getting rid of it rapidly. Now it is chiefly used to fill hollows and level lands. Experiment has shown, however, that it may be used with advantage for garden walks, where gravel is difficult to obtain. As soon as it is wet it forms a hard crust, like a cement, and on clay soils will tend to keep the walks hard and dry. Well mixed with the clay, it serves to render them less stiff and increases the strength and fertility of the soil. We believe it would be found a very valuable garden dressing also, particularly for fruit. Within our knowledge it has been tried for a number of years upon an English gooseberry bush which, from bearing small fruit in alternate years, has become a large and flourishing bush, producing fruit every year in profusion. No other attention has been given to this bush than simply mixing the soil around its root with coal ashes. We have seen it also tried with great advantage to peach trees, the bark of which, just beneath the surface of the earth, had been penetrated by worms. The coal ashes arrested any further injury probably by destroying the worms, and the trees recovered from the partial injury. We have no doubt that there are many uses to which coal ashes may be applied advantageously.

SUSPENDING POSTAL FACILITIES

Mr. Colfax's bill for the suspension of postal facilities in the seceding States, passed the House of Representatives on the 6th instant, by a vote of 121 to 28. The original draft was so modified by the Post-office Committee as to avoid any explicit recognition of the acts of secession. The bill, as passed, empowers the Postmaster General to discontinue the postal service on any route, whenever, in his opinion, the postal laws cannot be maintained, or the contents of the mails be preserved inviolate. While, as Mr. Colfax justly observed, this law would be applicable in the year 1900 as in 1861, its immediate effect would be a severe lesson to the seceded States. It virtually cuts them off from the enjoyment of postal facilities, and throws upon each seceding State the responsibility of conducting its own mail arrangements. Considering that even with the aid of the Federal government these States have never succeeded in paying the expenses of their post-offices, the inference is natural that their independent contracts will lead to the bankruptcy of all parties concerned. The whole opposition came from the ultra Southern members.

SIGNS! SIGNS.

The width of the gulf between the New York Tribune and the Albany Journal, both Republican papers, is daily increasing. The Tribune intimates that the Journal is either traitor or craven; the Journal asks how long it is since the Tribune insisted on a candidate for President who would not be obnoxious to the Border States, and demonstrated that a clean Republican like Seward, could not be elected to the Presidency, and hence went for an outsider, Bates! The Tribune, in remarking on Seward's declaration that Republicanism must be subordinate to the Union question, declares that it prefers clean Republican principles, i. e. the Chicago platform, to fifty Unions; whereupon the Journal rejoins that if "a choice must be made" between party and country, we differ so widely from it (the Tribune) as to prefer the Union to "fifty" parties. The Albany Journal has got at least fifty times the better of the Tribune.

STAMPS ON LETTERS.—Notwithstanding the fact that letters not stamped go to the dead letter office, there is a great deal of carelessness in business establishments in preparing important letters for the mails, probably owing to the fact that the stamping of letters is entrusted to boys, who neglect it. Within the past week, as we are informed, two important letters, one containing a check for $1000, and the other evidences of debt to the amount of $16,000, have been placed in the post-office of this city without stamps, and after some days were recovered from Washington, they having been sent to the dead letter office in that city. One half the complaints made against the post-office is nothing more than the carelessness of those who have dealings with it.

AMUSEMENTS.

At the *Walnut Street Theatre*, Mr. James E. Murdoch is playing a very successful engagement. He had full houses all last week, and his light comedy parts were never more spiritedly performed, nor seemingly enthusiastically received. His "Rover," in "Wild Oats," and his "Young Mirabel," in "Wine Works Wonders," are characters which he has made his own, and in their effective personation he probably has no living rival. Mr. Murdoch is unquestionably at the very head of his profession in light comedy parts, and for half a century to come will, no doubt, be held up by admiring grandfathers to their descendants as a standard of excellence to all who may essay the same roles, as grandfathers now talk to us of the wonderful acting in tragedy of Keene, Cooke, and others of like fame. Half a century hence it will be esteemed a privilege to have seen Murdoch's "Rover," "Young Mirabel," &c. An investment by a parent on his son to witness either of these parts will, in the remembrance, be esteemed a rich legacy. While there is much connected with theatres which some rigid moralists condemn, there can be no two opinions as to the propriety of witnessing Murdock's comedy. The spirit with which he impresses the character, and all who witness its personation, like "a thing of beauty is a joy forever." He will play every evening this week, and every intelligent youth who can afford it, should secure, while he may, the privilege of saying he has witnessed the greatest of living comedians,

JAMES E. MURDOCH.

At the *Arch Street Theatre*, Mrs. Bowers opened the present week, in her great character of "Louise De Lignerolles," which was followed, on Tuesday evening, with the great tragic drama from the French, called, "Pauline." The entertainments at this house are varied, presented on the stage with much care, and usually are well acted.

Van Amburgh's Zoological Institute, on Chesnut, above Fourth street, continues a most attractive centre with those who wish to blend instruction with their amusements.

At *McDonough's Olympic*, "The Seven Sisters," one of the most attractive pieces ever given to the Philadelphia public, continues to attract full and fashionable audiences. The female Zouaves are now drilled to perfection, and a sight of their manual exercises is worth a walk of ten miles. The machinery connected with the last scene now works to a charm and is really beautiful.

Sanford has not only the neatest and most convenient place for such an entertainment as his, in Philadelphia, but he has one of the best Ethiopian Companies in the country. His large audiences seem to enjoy the fun hugely.

The exhibition of the *Stereopticon* at Assembly Building, pleases and instructs, and shows in the most extraordinary manner the immense progress the arts have made. It attracted large crowds last week.

Signor Blitz, at the Commonwealth Building, Chesnut street, is steadily increasing his audiences. Blitz is a great favorite in Philadelphia, as is attested by the crowds of women and children that follow him.

NEWS AND NOTINGS.

The New Orleans custom house has been opened under the authority of Louisiana.

.... The "United Staple States" is a name suggested for the Southern Confederacy.

.... In New Orleans, La., the Democratic newspaper has hoisted over its office the national flag.

.... The Bergen, N. J., Tunnel is completed. It is three-quarters of a mile long and cost $2,000,000.

.... Lieutenant Slemner is not a New Englander—he hails from Pensylania.

.... Prentice doesn't admire ruffles, but says you had better have one to your shirt than to your temper.

.... The citizens of Albany suppressed an anti-slavery meeting attempted in that city on Monday week.

.... Judge Harris, Senator elect in Seward's place, is a prominent member of the Baptist church.

.... The Lower House of the New York Legislature has passed a bill appropriating $100,000 for the relief of the Kansas suffers.

.... The Texas State Convention is said to have passed the secession ordinance by ayes 154 to noes 6.

.... The New York Legislature has elected the Hon. Ira C. Harris U. S. Senator for six years, to succeed Mr. Seward. He was the Republican nominee.

.... Some newspaper man has discovered and printed that when a woman wishes to be very affectionate to her lover, she calls him a naughty man.

.... The New Orleans Delta declares that the reported seizure of a United States hospital and the removal of 260 patients by the Louisiana authorities is a hoax.

.... The Washington correspondent of the New York Commercial telegraphs that dissensions are spreading among the Republicans in regard to Executive appointments to Cabinet and other important offices.

.... The parading of United States troops on Pennsylvania avenue every morning by order of General Scott, causes deep indignation in the minds of Southern delegates to the Peace Congress.

.... The officials at the New Orleans custom house, now in the service of the State, refuse to deliver up to the Louisville importers their foreign goods, unless the United States Surveyor in that city will grant cancelling certificates for the goods, the duties thereon to be paid in New Orleans.

.... The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Murray, better known as "Kirwan," from his literary signature, a distinguished minister of the Presbyterian church, died suddenly, on Monday evening of last week, at his residence at Elizabethtown, N. J., of neuralgia. He was about sixty years of age, a native of Ireland, of Roman Catholic origin, but celebrated as a Presbyterian controversialist.

.... New Haven boasts a steam fire engine, and the boys there are growing frantic over it. The "masheen" was "rolled" on Tuesday for the purpose of flooding the new green—parks are called "greens" in New Haven—so far as to form a skating pond—for in this respect all villages must imitate New York. The "green" was flooded, and the cold temperature soon converted the flood to ice, on which the boys and girls skated.

.... The health of Florence Nightingale does not improve. The London News of Jan. 17, says: "We regret to learn from undoubted authority that the report recently circulated in several journals of the gradual improvement in Miss Nightingale's health is entirely without foundation. Her malady, far from being alleviated, increases upon her, and her state, which confines her entirely to her apartment, is one of great exhaustion and severe suffering."

.... The first duel which has resulted from the present political complications took place on Tuesday, the 29th ult., on the Pennsylvania border, between Dr. Jones, a partisan of Senator Douglas, and Mr. Wilson, a Breckinridge democrat, both residents of Washington. Wilson was wounded in the hip. The constabulary are said to be in pursuit of the parties.

.... A New York reporter who has been looking in the jewelry shops and noting their precious stock, mentions a set of diamonds, consisting of a necklace, bracelets, brooch and ear-rings. Value twenty-five thousand dollars. The necklace is composed of forty-three brilliant gems of the first water, forming a circle; from the centre are appended seven pear-shaped diamond pendants, of rare form and value. The cost of the necklace alone is sixteen thousand dollars.

.... They think in Paris that Mme., the Countess of Morny, leads the aristocratic crowds of lady skaters in point of grace and skill. She comes the Russian very captivatingly. The Empress, it is said, makes but a poor figure as a skater, in spite of her handsome costume and her handsome feet and ankles. She got herself up in an exquisite costume, and her skates were miracles of workmanship, but finding some difficulty in striking out, she retired soon disgusted.

.... "Mr. Thompson presents his compliments to Mr. Simpson, and begs to request that he will keep his piggs from trespassing on his grounds." "Mr. Simpson presents his compliments to Mr. Thompson, and begs to request that in future he will spell pigs without two gees." "Mr. Thompson's respects to Mr. Simpson, and would inquire if he adds the letter 'e' to the last word in the note just received, so as to represent Mr. Simpson and lady." Mr. Simpson returns Mr. Thompson's note unopened—the impertinence it contains being only equalled by its vulgarity."

.... Rarey, the wonderful horse-tamer, gave a charity lecture and exhibition in New York, one afternoon week before last. Half the proceeds he donated to the asylum for widows and orphans. He had an immense audience, including the beauty and fashion of the metropolis, and displayed his power in controlling Senator Seward's fiery Arabian steeds, also old Peacock, a powerful and intractable horse, one of the worst kickers and biters ever known. Mr. Rarey was upwards of an hour in conquering this vicious animal, but finally brought down Peacock's pride with the all-subduing strap, mounted him and concluded the lecture on his back.

.... The last "Leisure Hour" devoted by Edward Everett to the New York Ledger contains the following on passports:—"Difficulties sometimes occur at the police office in foreign countries in making out the personal descriptions. It is said, particularly, that the record of the age of the better part of creation would not always be found to correspond with that of the baptismal certificate. Lord Macaulay once mentioned at my breakfast-table, that when Madame Sontag applied for a passport at the police-office in Paris, the chief, instead of filling out the personal description under the separate heads, gazed a few moments at her with respectful admiration, and drawing a line down the column of particulars, wrote *angelique* (angelical) against them all."

TELEGRAPH NEWS.

THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS—2d Session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11, 1861.

SENATE.—The naval appropriation bill was taken up. Several amendments were added.

Mr. Hale offered an amendment to build seven steam sloops of war.

Mr. Hunter, of Virginia, thought there was something a little strange about this. It looked like building such a class of vessels as could go into the ports of the States which had seceded, and he feared there was something more than appeared on the face. He was opposed to anything that looked like coercion.

After further discussion, the amendment was agreed to—yeas 30, nays 18.

The bill was reported to the Senate, and, on the question of concurring in the amendment to build seven sloops of war,

Mr. Mason, of Virginia, spoke against the amendment. He said he could not shut his eyes to the fact that certain States had seceded, and six of them were joined together and had formed a Government and a nationality, and by no vote of his should any additions be made to the military force of the government, which would be used to coerce the States.

Mr. Fessenden, of Maine, said the proposition was made by a Democratic President. What has happened that the measure should not be now supported? Why is it not necessary now as then? Why, according to the Senator from Virginia, because six States have attempted to secede, and have seized on the property of the government. Does this render it less necessary? So long as he remained here, he (Mr. Fessenden) felt bound to perform his duty to the United States, and not to give the benefit of his counsels to those who wage war against the country.

Mr. Mason asked—Would they avow the reason in the bill that South Carolina was no longer a member of the Confederacy?

Mr. Fessenden said that made no difference in law. When foreign vessels now enter the port of Charleston, South Carolina collects and puts it into her own pocket. But when the United States declare that it is no longer a port of entry, then if vessels enter they must take the consequences. And if the time ever comes when it is necessary to use force to execute the laws of the United States, then he would be quite ready to do it. But this measure was intended as a measure of peace, and nobody had dreamed that this appropriation was for the purpose of making war.

Mr. Mason said the Senator had enlightened him that one reason for this increase of the naval force had some reference to the seceded States. He took that from the Senator's admission.

Mr. Fessenden said he had made no such admission.

Mr. Mason said—Let it pass. He was here to represent the sovereign State of Virginia, and to her alone was he amenable. He would do nothing to stand in the way of a full administration of the Government; but when he believed the Government was initiating a policy which would lead to civil war, he would not vote for increasing the navy. He would not vote a dollar until there was some settled policy avowed on the part of the incoming power. He wanted to know whether it was going to make war on the seceded States, or whether they would be allowed to depart peacefully.

Mr. King, of N. Y., said he had heretofore voted against the measure, not believing it necessary. But now treason was abroad in the land and he believed there was a necessity to increase the power of the country. He would vote now to put the country in a position to defend itself against domestic or foreign enemies. This Government could not be peaceably destroyed or divided. The people of this country would never consent to a peaceable destruction or dissolution. He did not believe that the country would be destroyed. He would use all forbearance, and make every effort for conciliation; but he would never admit the right to divide the country, and peaceably break up the Government. Cabinet officers and Senators had been interested, and there had been, no doubt, a foul plot to break up the Government. Some of these Cabinet officers had been driven out in disgrace, and a true bill found against one of them for grand larceny. He would tell the gentleman that, in his judgment, this treason must come to an end—peacefully he hoped, but never peacefully, if by the submission of the honor of the people to traitors—never!

Mr. Green, of Mo., said he had hitherto refrained from this discussion, but after the language he heard to-day, he could keep still no longer, but intended to express his sentiments at length. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Craige, of N. C., offered the following:

Resolved, That the President be required to acknowledge the independence of the said Southern Confederacy as soon as official information of its establishment be received, and that he receive such Commissioners as may be appointed by the Government for an amicable adjustment of all matters in dispute.

Mr. Craige asked that the resolution be put on its passage now, as all men desired that peace should be preserved.

Mr. Farnsworth, of Illinois, moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Patents. [Laughter.]

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Sickles, of New York, offered a series of resolutions, earnestly recommending to the people of the United States the celebration of the Twenty-second of February as a national holiday, in commemoration of the birth and the exalted character and incomparable public services and patriotism of George Washington, the first President of the United States.

Mr. Garnett, of Va., suggested an amendment after the word Washington, namely, "an illustrious Virginian and slaveholder."

Mr. Sickles—I object to the modification.

Mr. Whiteley, of Delaware, inquired whether it would not be well to get somebody to sing the "Star-spangled Banner!" [Laughter.]

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Sherman offered the following:

Resolved, That neither Congress nor the people, or the Governments of the non-slave holding States have any constitutional right to legislate upon or interfere with slavery in any of the slaveholding States of the Union.

This passed under the operation of the previous question—yeas 161, nays none.

Mr. Burnett proposed a resolution calling on the President to furnish the reasons which have induced him to bring a large number of troops to Washington, and why they are kept here; and whether he has any information showing a conspiracy to seize the Capitol, and to prevent the inauguration of the President elect.

The resolution was passed, and the House adjourned.

The Georgia Muskets Given Up.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—The muskets seized lately by the police were yesterday unconditionally placed in charge of G. B. Lamar, who immediately telegraphed the fact to the Collector at Savannah.

Lieutenants Rodgers and Schemaker, of the Revenue Cutter Lewis Cass, arrived here this morning from Savannah. The commander of the cutter was reappointed by the Georgia authorities immediately after seizure.

Release of the New York Vessels Seized at Savannah.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 10.—A despatch from Savannah, received to-day by Governor Pickens, states that the New York vessels seized by the Georgia authorities were released on the announcement, from New York, that the muskets seized at New York had been given in charge to Mr. Lamar.

Important from Arkansas.

The Little Rock Arsenal Seized.

MEMPHIS, Feb. 9.—The Little Rock, Arkansas, Arsenal, with 9,000 stand of arms, a large amount of ammunition, and forty pieces of cannon, including Capt. Bragg's battery, surrendered to the State authorities yesterday. It is now garrisoned by a hundred volunteers.

The Boston Bankers and the New Administration.

BOSTON, Feb. 9.—The Boston Traveller says the bankers of this city have determined to refuse to take any loans that may be called for by the new Administration, unless the political affairs are satisfactorily settled.

Pardoned by the President.

PORTLAND, Feb. 9.—Capt. John A. Holmes, sentenced to the State prison for life, for murder on the high seas, has been unconditionally pardoned by the President.

WRECK ON THE DELAWARE.

On Sunday the ship John Trucks, belonging to Bishop, Simons & Co., of this city, was cut by the ice and sunk at Arch street wharf. The ship was from Liverpool, with an assorted cargo of saltpetre, cutlery, dry goods, pig iron, &c., and she entered the bay on Friday, and stopped at New Castle until Sunday morning. While on her voyage to this port she had sprung a leak, but it was of no great importance. The City Ice boat was engaged to tow her to the city. The two vessels left about six o'clock in the morning, and as the floating ice was encountered, in large quantities, and the ship must have been cut, as the water in her hold then began to gain headway. Arch street wharf was gained late in the afternoon, and it was thought desirable to work her into the dock, where she might settle in shallow water. Before this could be accomplished, the stern grounded, while the bow was still out in the stream. Ropes were thrown out, the stern was soon made fast, and the steward of the ship, Mr. Wilcox, with two or three others, entered the hold for the purpose of removing some article, and while they were below, the ropes which held the vessel to the wharf snapped in two, and she slid into deep water and went down, and she now lies with 14 feet of water above her rails. Mr. Wilcox was drowned. One man escaped through the cabin windows, and it is thought that two or three other men were in the hold at the time the ship made the plunge. The John Trucks was a fine vessel of 1800 tons burden, and nearly new. Captain James B. Lindsay was in command. Her masts are now above water, and, from appearances last evening, it was feared that the ship would still further slide out into the stream. The River and Harbor Police were on hand with a boat, and did good service in watching during the night, and protecting the exposed rigging from the hands of the river thieves.

THE LATE FIRE IN THE 21st WARD.

The burning of the wadding manufactory of Mathias Gorgas, on Wissahickon creek, which occurred on Friday evening, involved a loss of about $8600. The mill was of stone, three stories in height and two hundred and seventy feet in length. It contained valuable machinery but not much stock. The contents were either destroyed or so much damaged as to be valueless. At the time the fire originated, about thirty workmen were in the factory, some of whom could not have got out uninjured, had not other means of escape been provided than those belonging to the building. The fire originated in the second story, used for glazing wadding, and spread with great rapidity through the entire structure.

FURTHER RESPITE OF JNO. MILLER,

Convicted of the murder of Henry Guerker, who was respited until the 15th of this month by Gov. Packer, has been further respited by Governor Curtin, until the 12th of April.

[Correspondence of the Dollar Newspaper.]

THINGS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11, 1861.

The funeral of the late Dr. Francis took place on Sunday afternoon, from St. Thomas Church, Broadway. Rev. Drs. Hawks and Morgan will officiate. The members of the Academy of Medicine will attend in a body.

Dr. Alfred Freeman, another eminent physician of this city, died on Saturday, in the 68th year of his age.

John W. Francis, M. D., LL.D., died at his residence, in East Sixteenth street, in this city, at about three o'clock last Friday. He had for some time been afflicted with carbuncles on the back, and last week an operation was performed, which for a time seemed to relieve him. Indeed, his death was quite unexpected. He retained his senses to the last and died without pain.

The City Inspector reports the whole number of deaths last year at 22,710, an increase of 1065, compared with the mortality of the year previous.

The Academy of Music intends to make a heroic endeavor to replenish its coffers, by producing a new opera this week—"*Un Ballo Maschera*," (the Masquerade Ball.) Tremendous puffs in advance of the wholly unheard-of magnificence with which it has been put upon the stage, appear in the papers.

The Cunard steamer Etna sailed Saturday for Liverpool, with 175 passengers, and a fine cargo of breadstuffs. One of the passengers is Capt. John Pope, U. S. N.

Absom, convicted of the murder of his wife by poison, was visited by a number of his friends and relatives in his cell at Bergen, on Saturday. A pocket knife, which some person had made him a present of for some purpose or other, was taken from him, though he earnestly remonstrated. He persists in declaring his innocence.

The following is a comparative statement of the imports of foreign dry goods and general merchandise at New York for the week and since January 1st:

For the week,	1859.	1860.	1861.
Dry goods	$3,740,149	$3 563 327	$2,022,078
General mdz.,	2,491,505	1,639 618	1,765,066
Total for week,	6,201,654	5 202,945	3,787,144
Previously rep.,	19 399 712	20 983,842	20,029,998
Since January 1,	$25 601,366	$26 186,787	$23 817,142

The Bergen Tunnel was opened on Thursday, by an excursion train, consisting of the members of the New Jersey Legislature, and a liberal representation of the city press. Speeches were made by Judge Naar, of Trenton, the President of the New Jersey Senate, and the Speaker of the House, the most of them having more reference to national politics, and the preservation of the Union, than the Bergen Tunnel and the Long Dock Company.

Eugene A. Koziay, the young man charged with the recent robbery of several thousand dollars' worth of goods from the custom house here, had an examination last Thursday. It turns out that he was a clerk in the warehousing department, and had charge of the books of the warehouse where Messrs. Goodrich & Walker had stored their invoice of silks. The prisoner denies the charge. He is a Hungarian, and came here as one of Kossuth's suite, studied law for awhile in the office of General Sandford, and was appointed to the Custom House clerkship by Collector Schell.

Governor Morgan, by the way, has replied by letter to the Governor of Georgia, in regard to these seizures of arms by the city police. The Governor takes the ground that as the arms were destined to be used to subvert the Government, which his official oath binds him to sustain, *he could not*, so far as he had any control, *permit arms to leave this State which might be turned against our own citizens*. From this it would appear that, in making the seizure, the police were acting under orders from the Governor, and not on Mr. Kennedy's individual responsibility, as has hitherto been supposed.

COTTON is dull and heavy; small sales were made at 11¾c. for middling Uplands.

FLOUR continues in fair request; 7000 bbls. were sold at $5 15 a 5 25 for superfine State and Western, $5 30 a 5 40 for lower grades of Western extra, and $5 45 a 5 60 for shipping brands of round hoop extra Ohio. Southern flour is in fair request, and prices have declined. Rye Flour is steady at $3 35 a 4 15. Corn Meal is quiet, and prices are unchanged.

GRAIN.—The market for Wheat is less active; 14,000 bushels were sold at $1 15 a 1 18 for Chicago spring, and $1 50 a 1 52½ for white Western. Rye is without any change, and selling at 65 a 68c. Barley is quiet, at 67 a 80c. Corn is in good demand; 47,000 bushels were sold at 65 a 66c. for old mixed Western, in store, and 63 a 64c. for new mixed Western. Oats are firm, at 35 a 36c.

PROVISIONS.—Pork is in fair demand. 200 bbls. were sold at $17 25 a 17 50 for mess, and $12 87½ a 13 for prime. Beef is unchanged. Lard is dull and heavy. 75 bbls and tcs. were sold at 9¾ a 10¼c. Butter and cheese are steady.

WHISKY.—Is in less active demand. 300 bbls. were sold at 18 a 18¾c.

[Correspondence of the Dollar Newspaper.]

LETTER FROM HARRISBURG.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 7, 1861.

The resolution proposed in the Senate, last week, to inquire whether any banks in the State had forfeited their charters by means of suspension of specie payments, was materially altered, so as to change entirely the nature of the inquiry, and finally passed in the following words:

"That the Committee on Banks shall have power to inquire into and investigate the condition of such banks in the Commonwealth, as the Committee, from such facts as they may have, or such as may be brought to their knowledge relative to the same, may deem unsafe or dangerous to the public interests; and farther to facilitate such inquiry the Committee shall have power to send for persons and papers; and the Committee are requested to report what, if any, further legislation in regard to banks is expedient."

Under this resolution, every bank in the Commonwealth is liable to arraignment before the Senate Committee, for the purpose of investigating into its condition. The inquiry is not limited to the cause of the recent suspension by the banks, nor as to what legislation would be expedient, but is general and sweeping. Under the authority thus conferred, the Committee may commence where they please and end when they please. They may select just such institutions as they think proper, and investigate their concerns, or they may institute an examination into the condition of all banks in the State. They are armed with a roving commission.

It is generally conceded that all the banks in the State that suspended specie payments have forfeited their charters. The act of 1850 makes a failure to redeem its notes upon demand by any Bank an absolute forfeiture of its charter. The same act makes it the duty of the President or Cashier of a Bank upon refusal to redeem a note or certificate of deposit, to make an endorsement thereon, setting forth the time when payment was demanded, and subscribe his name thereto. For refusal or neglect to make such endorsement, the President or Cashier is liable to pay a forfeit of one hundred dollars to the holder of the note. I presume that there is not a Bank President or Cashier attached to any of the banks that suspended specie payment who has not repeatedly rendered himself liable to this penalty. Notwithstanding that the banks have rendered themselves liable to a forfeiture of charter, and the officers to the penalties imposed by the act of 1850, for refusal to redeem their notes, and endorse such refusal on the bills presented for payment, proceedings have not been commenced in a single case to enforce the execution of the law—a fact which shows that public opinion deemed the suspension of the banks, from causes beyond their control, proper and justifiable. In most instances the suspension was merely nominal, the banks paying out specie in sums sufficient for the accommodation of their immediate customers.

The Legislature is now called upon to legalize the suspension of the banks, and prevent the forfeiture of their charters. Some of the city banks seem to think that their charters have not been forfeited, and that they do not require special legislation. But in this emergency all the banks should stand together. The country banks suspended after the city banks, and because they were compelled to follow their example. After leading them into this movement, it would be very ungracious in the Philadelphia banks to interpose any objections to the passage of a law to prevent the forfeiture of their charters.

[Correspondence of the Dollar Newspaper.]

Naval Affairs—Cruise of the African Squadron.

ST. PAUL DE LOANDO, Nov. 13, 1860.

The U. S. steamers Mohican and Sumter arrived at this port on the 9th; the former from Fernando Po, the latter from St. Helena. The Mohican brought the mails. The Sumter has been to St. Helena to give her crew liberty. The men and officers seem to have enjoyed the visit well.

The U. S. steamer Mystic, Lieut. Com'dg. Wm. E. Leroy, left this port on the 8th, for St. Helena.

The following is a list of the officers of the Mohican:

Commander S. W. Godon; Lieutenants, T. H Patterson, J. P. Jones, J. W. Dunnington; Master, A. F. Crossman; Midshipman, E. W. Miller; Gunner, Charles Stewart; Carpenter, Wm Hyde; First Assistant Engineers, T. A. Shock, A. J. Kiersted; Third Assistants, R. H. Fitch, E. Farmer, James Atkins, George W. Rogers; Commander's Clerk, — Lounds; Paymaster's Clerk, James Hennesy.

The following is a list of the officers of the "Sumter":—Lieut. Com'dg. Jas F. Armstrong. Lieuts. Jno. B Stewart, Jas. A. Grier; Master, Geo. R. Perkins; Passed Assistant Surgeon, Jenks E. Otis; Engineers, First Asst. Thomas J. Jonas; Third do., E. B. Latch, J. H. Morrison, John L. Plumly; Captain's Clerk, C. F. Float; Paymaster's do., D. D. Clark.

The yellow fever is raging at this place, and the strictest quarantine regulations exist. None of the officers of either ship are allowed to go on shore, except those attached to the paymaster's department, for stores, and the engineers for coal. Both vessels will leave in a few days, to cruise off the Pongo. H. B M. steamers Arrogant and Buffalo are lying off the bar. The French Admiral's ship yesterday stood in toward the town, and, after crossing the bar, and returning the several salutes, stood out to sea again.

As the mail is about to close I must cut this letter short, but more anon. Yours truly, H.

THEY MADE sad butchering work in the execution of the wretched slave who murdered his master, at Louisville, on Friday week. The Courier says that when the trap was sprung, the criminal fell about three feet, but his weight proving too heavy for the rope, it broke in an instant, letting him fall to the ground, a distance of about six feet. He was assisted to rise to his feet by the chief of police, and with a firm step he again ascended the scaffold without betraying the least emotion. Some five minutes were passed in fixing the rope, when it was again placed around the neck of Dave, the trap sprung, and he was left hanging between the heavens and the earth. The fall this time was short, and the neck of the wretched criminal was not broken, so that he struggled hard and long with death.

AN UNSENTIMENTAL PHYSICIAN.—The Paris correspondent of the Boston Traveller relates the following:—

A story is told upon Rayer, the eminent physician here. He was called in six weeks ago to attend a sick child. The child—it was the only child of wealthy parents—recovered its health. A few days after Rayer had discontinued his visits, the mother of the little invalid called on the doctor. She said: My dear doctor, there are services rendered in this world, which money cannot pay. I know not how we could adequately reward you for your kindness and attentions and skill to poor Ernest. And I have thought that, perhaps, you would be good enough to accept this little porte-monnaie—a mere trifle—but which I embroidered." "Porte-monnaie!" roughly replied the doctor, "Medicine, madame, is not a sentimental profession. When we are called in to visit sick people, we want their fees and not their gratitude. Gratitude—humbug! I'd like to see gratitude make the pot boil; and I have not only to make my pot boil, but I have got a horse to feed, madame, and a driver to pay, madame, and daughters to portion, madame—and gratitude won't aid me to do any of these things. Money is what is required—money, madame—yes, money!" The lady was, as you may well imagine, confounded by this burst of indignant talents, and she could only stammer: "But—doctor—what is your fee?" "My fee is two thousand francs; and I tell you madame, there is no use screaming about it. I will not take one sou less." The lady did not scream. She quietly opened the porte monnaie "I embroidered," unrolled the five bank notes in it, gave two to the doctor, placed the other three in the porte monnaie, and the latter in her pocket, and bowed profoundly, "Good morning, doctor," and made her exit.

HOMICIDE.—Dr. Lemuel Keebler, formerly of New Orleans, but late of Grahamville, S. C., was shot on Tuesday last, and died of his wounds the next day.

THE MARKETS.

THE MONEY MARKET.

We a week or two ago announced the failure of the State Saving Fund, with liabilities to the amount of about $73,000, with assets of nearly equal amount, and that there was a hope on final settlement there would not be much loss. The Insurance Monitor of New York, now before us, puts a less flattering face on the condition of this Company. Presuming the liabilities of $70,000 as given, to be correct, the Monitor says they exceed assets by $40,000. If this be true, taking the $40,000 from the liabilities, leaves but $33,000. The same authority says: "Among the assets are a number of shares of the Washington Fire Insurance Company, amounting to $24,000, from which, of course, in the present unsettled state of affairs, but very little, if anything, can be obtained, and if they should be sold now in the market, would hardly bring in cents what their value is represented in dollars. Other securities, but to a much smaller amount, are also exhibited in the list, but they are in the same doubtful category, and cannot be made productive at the present time." If the Monitor means that the aggregate assets are $40 000 less than the liabilities, and that the $24,000 of the comparatively worthless Washington Insurance stock is to be deducted from these, but $9000 of indifferent securities are left to meet the claims of creditors, amounting to $73,000. We hope the result may prove much better than this.

The President of the Harrisburg Railroad Company gives notice that proposals will be received at the office of that Company for the whole or any part of 1909 shares of that Company's stock until Friday, February 22, at 12 M., at which time said proposals will be opened and the stock awarded to the highest offerers who can comply with the terms—which are cash in the three days ending Tuesday, Feb. 26, 12 M. Provided, said bids are not less than fifty dollars per share, and in case all is not paid for, the Directors reserving the right to dispose of only such portion as they may think proper. The stock bears interest at the rate of seven per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually on the 1st days of July and January, in each year, without any deduction for taxes, and is guaranteed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, under the lease to said Company. It carries interest from the 1st of January last. Proposals to be endorsed "Proposals for Stock."

The bill before the Legislature, asking relief for the Sunbury and Erie Railroad, as well as that commuting the tonnage tax on the Pennsylvania Railroad, have been reported to the House without amendment. The former, it is expected, will pass a second reading towards the close of the present week.

We have no change of rates to report in the bill market. The merchants are taking in their paper as occasion offers, and the desire seems general to avoid all debt as far as possible. All the good, live paper offered at bank is discounted, and such A No. 1 as finds its way to the street is placed at 9 a 10 per cent. Paper less favorably known goes from 1¼ to 2 per cent. a month. Call loans are made at 6 a 7 per cent.

The Spring business which should have commenced before this, is still scarcely heard from. Our hotel are still quite deserted, and here, as at New York, the stores are almost as quiet as churches. There is very little paper making, and of course not much paper of any kind on the market. The banks are discounting nearly or quite all the good, short bills that are made and presented, and the old and long paper is so much distrusted that little of it is offered. The best paper can be negotiated at 9 a 10 per cent., and inferior is refused at 2 a 3 per cent. a month. Call loans can be placed at 6 a 7 per cent.

The New York Enquirer expresses great gratification that "Pennsylvania, which has too often been 'penny wise and pound foolish' in such matters, is about to abolish all tolls and taxes on transportation companies other than are levied on all property." It truly says, "if any species of property should be exempt from high and especial taxation, it is railroads."

The following were the closing prices of stocks on Monday, as corrected by D. M. ROBINSON & Co., Stock Brokers, No. 138 South Third street, Philadelphia:

	Par	Bid	Ask		Par	Bid	Ask
U S 6s '67	100	..	..	Leh Nav shs	50	48	..
U S 6s '62	100	..	..	" Scrip	50	33½	33¾
U S 6s '82	100	..	..	" 6 per ct	100	100	100½
Germant'n G	50	49	50½	" 6s mtg	100	..	..
Richmond G	10	9	10	Morris Canl	100	50¾	52
Moyamen G	10	9	10	" prefd	100	106	108
Philada 6s	100	98	98½	" bds	100	90	..
" R	100	98	98½	Ches & Del	200	26	..
" G Ln	100	98	98½	" 6s '86	100	71	..
" N Ln	100	101½	101¾	Union C shs	100	..	..
" coup'n	100	101½	101¾	" pref 6s	100	..	..
" "	100	81	82	" bonds	100	15	20
Camden 6s	100	92	95	Susq & Tide	50	..	..
Pittsb'g m 6s	100	60	65	" bds '78	100	30	..
" cp bds	100	..	..	Cha & Am R	100	107¾	108
" co R is	100	40	50	" 6s '64	100	..	..
Alleg City 6s	100	..	..	" 6s '64	100	..	..
" co R is	100	40	50	" 6s '70	100	..	..
Penna 6s	100	101½	..	" 6s '67	100	..	..
" 5s	100	90	90¾	" 6s '75	100	..	..
" 5s cp	100	..	91¾	" 6s '80	100	..	..
Tenn 6s	100	..	..	" 6s '83	100	79½	80
" 5s cpn	100	..	..	" 6s '89	100	80	80½
Cincinna 6s	100	..	..	" 6s '63	100	..	..
" 6s W W	100	93	..	Phil & Trn R	100	..	..
Kent'y 6s	100	92	95	" bds '68	100	..	..
St Louis 6s	100	..	..	Penna R	50	38¼	38½
N Amer Bk	100	125	126	" 6s 1st m	100	100	..
Commonw'h	50	..	39	" 2d mtg	100	87½	88
Philadelp'a	100	103	107½	L Schuyl R	50	12	15
Far & Mec	50	51	..	" bds	100	..	..
Commercial	50	41	44	Diamond C	50	..	..
N Liberties	50	55	..	Del R en 6s	100	..	84
Mechanics	20	24	25	" 6s mt	100	..	53
Southwark	50	60	..	Beaver M R	50	57½	..
Kensington	50	60	65	Phil.G & N R	50	48½	48¾
Penn Town	35	33	34	Reading R	50	21½	21¾
Girard	50	40½	..	" m 6s '43	100	..	89¼
Western	50	56½	..	" m 6s '44	100	..	89¾
Manu & Mec	25	23½	..	" m 6s '48	100	..	..
Commerce	50	..	..	" m 6s '70	100	82½	..
Tradesm's	50	..	..	" m 6s '86	100	71½	71¾
City	50	32	40	Minehill R	50	..	..
Consolidat'n	25	..	..	" Scrip	..	..	..
Corn Exch	25	..	26	H'r MJ & LR	50	54	54½
Union	50	..	32½	" bds '58	100	..	..
Camden	50	..	..	" R bs '83	100	..	..
" Far & M	50	..	..	N Penna R	50	8	8½
Germant'n	50	50	..	" 6s	100	..	..
Miner's Ptts	50	40	..	" 10s	100	91	92
Trenton B C	50	45	..	Phil & Sun 7s	100	79	..
Bk Pittsb'g	50	50	..	Chester V R	50	..	..
Mer & Manu	50	48	..	" 7s	100	31	33
Exchange	50	..	55	Lehigh V R	50	51	51½
Kentucky	100	..	100	" 6s	100	..	..
" North	100	104	106	Elmira R pf	50	12	13
Louisville	100	104	108	Elmira con	50	..	..
Farmers'	100	..	..	" 1st m bds	100	65	66
Tenn Union	100	56	71	" 10s	100	..	..
" Plants	100	..	..	Catawisa R pf	50	8½	8¾
Wash G Lg	20	..	..	" bonds	100	..	..
Ph & Leh Zinc	50	16	17	Tioga R shs	50	..	..
N Creek Co	10	..	⅓	Phil W & B R	50	35	35½
N Amer Ins	10	16	16½	" cp bds	100	94	96
Penna "	10	225	..	Sun & E shs	100	..	..
Phœnix "	50	..	..	" 7s	100	..	..
Dela Mu "	25	19	21½	Cum Val R	50	48	..
S Garden "	50	26	..	L Island R	50	9⅝	9¾
Life & Annui	50	..	..	" 6s	100	..	..
Amer Fire	75	90½	96	N Lib Gas	50	23	..
Penna "	100	207	..	Philada Ex	50	..	..
Franklin "	100	248	..	Fifth & 6th R	50	..	79
County "	50	..	..	Second St R	50	..	41
Del Div Cnl	50	..	..	W Phil'ad R	50	5⅝	5⅞
" 6s	100	..	..	Spruce St R	50	..	9
Sch Nav shs	50	7½	9	Chesnut St R	50	..	13
" prfd	50	16	17	Race St R	50	..	17
" loan '72	100	84	85	Green St R	50	18	..
" loan '82	100	66½	66¾	Girard L & T	50	29	..
" boat ln	100	83	..	Acady of M	100	..	..
" imp ln	100	73	..				

New York Stocks.				Baltimore Stocks.			
N Y Cen R	100	75½	76½	Balt City 6s '90	100	95½	96
Ill Cen R	100	7	7¾	Maryland 6s	100	..	..
Rock Isl R	100	56½	56¾	Balt R 6s '85	100	80	81
Gal & Chi R	100	70½	71	" shs	100	58	58½
Mich South	100	..	14½	N Cen R shs	50	13½	15
Cleve & Tol	100	..	32¾	" 6s	100	..	50½

The January earnings of the Cleveland and Toledo Railroad are $84,996, against $78,169 in same month last year, showing an increase of $6,827. The comparative increase for the same months, of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, was $19,468. The Chicago and Northwestern increases $19,989. The Toledo and Wabash $13 828, and the Marrietta and Cincinnati $9 960.

The twenty sixth annual report of the Western (Mass.) Railroad Co., for the year ending Nov. 29, 1860, shows a net balance of income over expenses and repairs of $868,251. Of this sum $398,223 were disbursed in interest and sinking fund and $412,000 in two 4 per cent. dividends. The Company has a contingent fund of $490,644.

CATTLE MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 11.—At Phillips' Avenue Drove Yard, the sales of cattle during the past week amounted to 979 head. The prices realized were from 7 to 9½ cents per lb. 70 cows brought from $25 to 40 per head. The number of sheep disposed of was 6500. They brought from 4 to 5¼ cents per lb., gross weight. 960 hogs sold at from $7½ to 8½ per cwt., net. At Imhoff's Union Hog Yard, 1552 head of hogs were sold. The prices realized were from $7½ to $8 per cwt., net, for still fed, and from $7¾ to $8¾ per cwt., net, for extra.

Hay Market.—The sales of hay during the past week amounted to 462 loads. The prices realized for it were from 70 to 80 cents per cwt. for the mixed, and from 80 to 90 cents for the best. The quantity of straw disposed of was 46 loads; it brought from 70 to 80 cents per cwt. For several weeks past there has been but little change in this market.

ALLEGHENY, (near Pittsburg,) February 5.—Beeves.—The total amount offered foot up 801 head, 575 were sold at prices ranging from 2¾ to 3¾ cents per lb., gross; the balance, 226 head, were all sent east. Hogs—There were 1824 head offered, and 1067 sold at 5¾ a 6c per lb., gross, and $5 a 5 40 per head. The residue, 757 head, were all sent east. Sheep—There were 1094 head offered, of which 364 were sold 4¼c per lb., gross; the residue, 730, were left over, and sent east.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 7.—Beef Cattle.—The offerings amounted to 800 head; 150 of which were driven to Philadelphia, and balance sold from $2 75 to 4 25—but few at latter price. Average, $3 37½. Market dull. Hogs—Sales at from $7 25 to 8 per 100 lbs., according to quality. Demand good. Sheep—Prices from 4 to 4¼c gross. Supply good.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—The demand for cattle was very good. Current prices for the week are as follows:—Beef Cattle—First quality, $9 a 9 50; ordinary quality, $8 25 a 8 75; common quality $7 a 8; inferior quality, $5 50 a 6 50. Cows and Calves—First quality, $55 a 60; ordinary quality, $40 a 50; common quality, $30 a 35; inferior quality, $25 a 30. Veal Calves—First quality, per lb., 6½ a 7¼; ordinary quality, 5½ a 6; common quality, 4 a 5; inferior quality 3½ a 4. Sheep and Lambs—Prime quality, per head, $5 a 6; ordinary, $4 a 4 75; common, $3 a $3 75; inferior, $2 75 a 3. Swine—First quality—5½ a 6¼c.; other qualities, 5¾ a 5¾.

CAMBRIDGE, Feb. 6.—At market, about 476 Beeves. Prices of Market Beef—Extra $6 50 a 6 75; first quality $6 00; second quality, $5; third quality, $3 25. Sheep and Lambs—2560 at market; prices in lots, $1 50 a 1 75 each. Extra, from $2 25, 3 to 5 25, or from 3 to 5½ cts. per pound.

BRIGHTON, (near Boston,) Feb. 7.—At market, 900 Beeves, 2000 Sheep and Lambs, and 200 Swine. Prices—Market Beef—Extra, $7 25; first quality, $6 75 a 7; second quality, $6; third quality, $5 50. Remarks.—Market active at an advance of 25 cents per 100 lbs on last week's prices. Sheep and Swine remain much the same as last week.

PHILAD'A WHOLESALE MARKET.

Business generally continues dull and neglected. Bark is scarce and wanted. In Breadstuffs the movement is small, and the prices of all kinds unsettled and lower. Coal and Iron are almost at a stand still but without any material change in prices. Cotton is dull, buyers taking hold in a small way only at about previous rates. For Provisions the demand has been good, but the market closes rather quiet. *Bark*—There is a steady demand for Quercitron, at $25 for 1st No. 1; holders generally ask more. *Beeswax*—Is scarce at 31 a 32c., but we hear of no sales. *Coal*—The demand both for shipment and home use are limited, and prices about the same as last quoted. Orders come in slowly. *Coffee*—The market is firm. Rio at from 11½ to 12½c. on time; Jamaica at 12½c. cash; Java at 17 a 17½c. and Laguira at 14c. on the usual credit. *Copper*—Continues dull, but without any quotable change. *Cotton*—Some 600 bales, mostly Uplands, have been disposed of in small lots at from 11 to 13¼ a 14c., cash and time. The receipts and stocks continue very light. *Feathers*—Sales at 47 a 49c for good Western. *Fish*—Sales of Mackerel at $15 a 16 for 1's, $9½ a 12 for 2's, as to size, and $9½ $6 and $5 per bbl for large, medium and small 3's. No change in pickled Herring or Dry Cod. *Fruit*—A sale of 800 bushels low grade Southern Peanuts was made at $1 25 per bushel, bags 10c extra. *Flour and Meal*—Holders of Flour generally have put down their prices 12½ a 25c. per bbl. Only some 5000 bbls. have found buyers, mostly for shipment, at $5 a 5 25 for common, mixed and good straight superfine chiefly at $5 12½; $5 37½ a 5 75 for extra and extra family, and $6 a 6 25 per bbl. for fancy brands, as in quality; the sales to the trade within the above range of prices, the market closing very dull. Rye Flour is taken, chiefly for shipment, at $3 62½ a 3 75 per bbl. Corn Meal—Sales of Penna. meal at $3 per bbl. lized and delivered. *Grain*—Sales of Wheat include about 20 000 bushels, mostly for shipment at 126 a 128c for fair to good and prime Western and Penna reds; 128 a 130c. for Southern do., and from 130 to 140c. for white. Rye is lower. Penna having been sold in lots at 72 a 70c., and Delaware at 67 a 65c. Corn—Sales of 20,000 bus., mostly new Southern yellow, at 60 a 56c. in store and in the cars, including some afloat at 60 a 58c., and old Corn at 70 a 65c., closing dull at the latter figures. Oats—Sales of 18,000 bushels, mostly Penna, at 33 a 33½c. in store and in the cars; Jersey and Delaware at 32 a 33c., the latter afloat. Barley and Malt—Prices about the same as last quoted, say 73 a 75c. for the former, and 85 a 95c. for the latter. *Ginseng*—Prices are firm. *Guano*—There are no changes to note in prices. *Hemp*—Is quiet, stock being nearly all in the hands of the manufacturers. *Hops*—Sales limited at 28 a 31c. for new crop, Eastern and Western. Old Hops very dull. *Iron*—Prices are nominal, at $22, $21 and $20 for the three numbers of Anthracite Pig Metal on time; 250 tons Nos 1 and 2 have been sold at these rates. Nothing new in Bars and Rails, and the sales limited. *Lead*—We hear of no sales worthy of notice. *Lumber*—Little doing in the way of sales, and prices rule about the same. *Molasses*—Sales of 400 bbls. New Orleans at 37c. on the usual terms. New crop Trinidad at 20c. on time. *Naval Stores*—Sales of 800 bbls. common Rosin at $1 10 and 400 bbls. good No. 1 at $2 50 per bbl. Nothing doing in Tar and Pitch. Sales of Spirits Turpentine at 39 a 39½c., and at 40 a 41c. on the spot. *Oils*—A small business in Sperm and Whale, at previous rates. Lard Oil is firm at 90 a 95c. Sales of Linseed at 51 a 52c. in casks and bbls. *Plaster*—There is nothing doing, and no change to note. *Provisions*—About 100 bbls. Mess Pork sold at $18 25 a 18 50; Clear at $20, and Rump at $13½ per bbl. on time. Beef is steady at $12 a 14 per bbl. for city mess. Dressed Hogs are worth $7 a 7 25 per 100 lbs. Bacon at 10½ a 10¾c. for sides, and 8¾ a 8¾c for shoulders, cash and time. Hams are steady at 11 a 13c for plain and fancy cured. Green Meats are selling at 9¼ a 9½c. for pickled hams, 9¾ a 9¾c. for sides, and 8¾ a 8¾c. for shoulders, in salt, cash and time; a sale of middles was made at 10c. Lard is quiet, tierces selling slowly at 10½ a 10¾c. on time; kegs 11¾c., usual credit. Butter is dull roll selling slowly at 12 a 13c, the latter for prime; packed is held at 9 a 10c. Cheese is steady at 10 a 11c. Eggs bring 16c. per dozen *Rice*—Is steady at 3¾ a 4c. per lb., the latter for prime. *Seeds*—Sales of some 12 a 1500 bus. Cloverseed at $4 50 a 5 25, mostly at $4 75 a $5 per bushel for prime. In Timothy, prices are nominal, at $2 25 a 2 37½ per bushel. Domestic Flaxseed ranges at $1 42 a 1 45 per bushel. Sales of Red Top at $2 per sack. *Spirits*—N E. Rum sells at 32 a 33c. Whisky is unchanged; Penna bbls. selling at 17½c.. Ohio do. 18c; Drudge 17c.. and hhds. 17½c. *Sugars*—Continue dull; about 300 hhds. New Orleans sold at from 6 to 7c. on the usual terms. Of refining qualities the sales are limited at 5 a 5½c. for Cuba, on time. *Tallow*—Moves off at 9½ a 10c. for city rendered. *Tobacco*—The transactions in all kinds continue limited, and prices without any material change. *Wool*—The sales have been confined to small lots, mostly fleece, within the range of previous figures, including 14,000 lbs. unwashed at 23c., and some fine at 50c. per lb.

PRICES OF FLOUR AND GRAIN.

The following were the prices of Flour, Wheat, Grain and Oats, at the several points named, at the latest dates received:

	Flour.	Wheat.	Corn.	Oats.
Philadelphia..........	5 12	1 34	56	33
New York..........	5 15	1 32	64	37
Buffalo..........	5 00	1 15	58	28
Cleveland..........	4 00	1 09	38	24
Wilmington, Del..........	5 40	1 40	68	34
Richmond..........	5 00	1 30	65	34
Cincinnati..........	4 60	1 15	34	30
Trenton, N. J..........	5 25	1 35	68	33
St. Louis..........	5 00	1 10	48	31
Baltimore..........	5 18	1 40	69	34
Albany..........	5 50	1 30	68	35
Alexandria, Va..........	5 25	1 37	75	35
Boston..........	6 00	—	73	39
New Orleans..........	5 62	—	64	38
Pittsburg..........	4 75	1 10	40	26
Louisville..........	5 15	1 10	57	30½
Chicago..........	4 50	80	44	18
Rochester..........	5 50	1 20	64	38
Detroit..........	4 50	1 20	56	34
Toledo..........	4 50	1 20	50	37
Milwaukie..........	4 00	77	54	37

MARRIED.

On the evening of the 7th, at the residence of the bride's father, James Barber, Esq., by Rev. W. C. Robinson, Mr. J. THORNTON WEAVER and Miss SARAH E. BARBER, of this city.

At Manayunk, by the Rev. Wm. Fulton, on the 7th inst., Mr. ROBERT H. ERSKINE, of Norristown, Pa., to Miss SARAH BELL, of Trenton, New Jersey.

Sept 18th, 1860, Mr. HORACE BINNEY HOUGH, of Point Pleasant, Bucks co., Pa., to Miss MARTHA T. BANGER, of this city. [Bucks county papers please copy.

DYBALL—SLOSS.—On the 7th inst., by the Rev. C. Matlack, ROBERT DYBALL to Miss ALICIA M. SLOSS, all of this city.

On the 5th inst., by the Rev. George Bringhurst, Mr. CHARLES M. TINDALL, to Miss MARY, youngest daughter of Mr. W. H. C. Riggs, both of this city.

Thursday evening, 7th inst., at the residence of Wm. S. Wood, Esq., West Phila., by Rev John H. Castle, Mr. CHARLES JAMES WOOD to Miss MAGGIE A. SHEPHERD.

On Wednesday Evening, Feb. 6th, by Rev. John A. McKean, Mr. JOHN SAMPLE and Miss MARY LOUISA KERIN, all of this city.

January 17th, 1861, by the Rev. Father Gallagher, HENRY E. BURKE to Miss HELEN SEWARD, daughter of the late Thomas Seward, both of this city.

On the 5th of February, 1861, by the Rev. Archibald P. Cobb, Mr. JOSEPH J. YOUNG to Miss SUSANNA COFFEE, the only daughter of the late George F. Coffee, all of Philadelphia.

DIED.

BARNET.—On the 7th inst., ELIZA BARNET, in the 59th year of her age.

BOYD.—Suddenly, on the 7th instant, SARAH BOYD, relict of the late William Boyd, aged 73 years.

BREISH.—On the 6th instant, Mrs. MARY, widow of the late Joshua Breish, aged 69 years.

HOUGHTON.—On the 7th instant, ANNA M. HOUGHTON, formerly of Boston, aged 61 years.

HUDSON.—On Thursday morning, the 7th instant, MARTHA, wife of Joseph Hudson, in the 58th year of her age.

JERMON.—On the 7th inst., Mrs. ELIZABETH JERMON, wife of Mr. James Jermon, aged 69 years.

JOHNSON.—On Thursday, the 7th instant, ANN JOHNSON, in the 69th year of her age.

KAVANAGH.—Of Consumption, on the 11th inst., Mr. JOS. H. KAVANAGH, in his 47th year.

KNOWLES.—On the 6th inst., GEO. KNOWLES, in the 73d year of his age.

McALLISTER.—On the 8th instant, RANDALL McALLISTER, aged 73 years.

McCOLLUM.—On the 7th instant, ELIZABETH McCOLLUM, in the 82d year of her age.

MESLIN.—Suddenly, on the 7th inst., Mrs. SARAH, widow of the late Lewis James Meslin, in the 30th year of her age.

OGDEN.—On the 7th instant, MARY OGDEN, in the 74th year of her age.

OMENSETTER.—On Feb. 7th, JACOB OMENSETTER, in his 52d year.

PENN.—On the 5th instant, Mr. PRESMULL D. PENN, aged 43 years.

PURE DWARF BROOM-CORN.—Two ounces of this valuable seed sent, post-paid, for Twenty five cents. Address P. H. MAYER,
*629. Wheatland Mills, P. O., Lancaster Co, Pa.

BRICK PRESSES, Drain Tile and Clay Tempering Machines and Brickmakers' Tools, manufactured at 309 South FIFTH Street, Philadelphia.
fe13-1t*982 S. P. MILLER.

"WOMEN OF NEW YORK," or Female Characters in the city. A curious new book, by Mrs. Hankins, giving the Portraits of 36 *living Women*, as she finds them in actual life, with a spicy and interesting description of their respective peculiarities. The book is a great novelty, and happily suited to both sexes. The Authoress gives us more romance in every day life than is found in works of fiction. Among the characters are Dashing Widows, Women in Black, Fascinating Ladies, Old Men's Darlings, Adventuresses, Bogus Ladies, Widows' Daughters, Fortune Tellers, and Honest Women of Toil. Such a volume is worth a hundred times its price to a family of girls. Fancy binding, 350 pages, 60 Engravings. Enclose a dollar bill and get a copy, post-paid, by return of mail. HANKINS & CO., Publishers, "*Family Newspaper*" Office, 132 NASSAU St., New York. AGENTS WANTED.—Forward Synopsis of Book, or Terms of Agency, enclose a red stamp. fe13-1t8

CONSUMPTION AND ASTHMA CURED.—Dr. H James discovered while in the East Indies a certain cure for Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds and general debility. The remedy was discovered by him when his only child, a daughter, was given up to die. His child was cured, and is now alive and well. Desirous of benefiting his fellow mortals he will send to those who wish it, the recipe containing full directions for making and successfully using this remedy, free, on the receipt of their names with stamp for return postage. There is not a single symptom of consumption that it does not at once take hold of, and dissipate. Night sweats, peevishness, irritation of the nerves, failure of memory, difficult expectoration, sharp pains in the lungs, sore throat, chilly sensation, nausea at the stomach, inaction of the bowels and wasting away of the muscles. Address CRADDOCK & CO., 225 North SECOND Street, Philadelphia. fe13-1t*

THE SNOW FORT.

A POEM FOR THE BOYS.

BY JOSEPH BARBER.

In the happy days of boyhood,
Five and-thirty years ago,
(Life's golden age of joyhood,)
We built castles of the snow,
In the glittering drifts we quarried,
And our mansion work was rare,
As those mansions, many-storied,
Manhood fashions out of air.

Though our ramparts and our fosses
Might have puzzled old Vauban,
What cared we, the urchin bosses,
For old fogy rule and plan?
Our outworks were the queerest
Ever reared by human skill,
But of names we chose the dearest—
Every fort was Bunker Hill.

How the parts of British leaders
Went a begging, one and all;
How we all were earnest pleaders
For front places on the wall!
Boys detailed for service foreign,
Fell in line with clouded brow,
Each one clamored to be Warren,
And none wanted to be Howe.

The battle—ah! we fought it,
Not at all by history's light;
How the pesky English caught it,
How they always lost the fight.
In despite of truth we chased them,
And to facts entirely blind,
As down the hill we raced them,
How we peppered them behind!

Thus we fought the fight of Bunker's,
In the days that knew no care,
Ere the snow we tossed, as younkers,
Time had sifted in our hair.
Now, alas! in the fierce battle
We wage daily with the world,
Harder shots against us rattle
Than our boy-arms ever hurled.

And 'tis not the generous tussle
Of the snow fort on the knoll,
But a strife with those who hustle
Not the body but the soul;
And instead of gleaming missiles,
Poisoned shafts fly to and fro,
And we march o'er galling thistles,
Not the velvet of the snow!

Knickerbocker Magazine.

THE FARMER.

[We will send the "Dollar Newspaper" gratuitously, for one year, to all who will become occasional contributors to this department of the paper. At the expiration of the year it will be discontinued, unless our attention is called to a renewal.]

[Written for the Dollar Newspaper—Philada.]

LIGHT IN OUR HOUSES, ETC.

We all need some artificial light in our dwelling houses and other places to enable us to see and perform our various callings aright, especially in our long winter nights. And as these nights are again drawing near, the question arises, how may we secure this light to the best advantage and with the most economy. For in our day we have various means for lighting up our houses that were measurably unknown to preceding generations of our race. The first settlers of America, and their descendants for many years afterwards, mostly spent their winter evening in *the kitchen*, whose hugely spacious fire-place was well filled with large logs rolled into it, and *the burning of these* afforded the usual light for spinning, knitting, reading, social intercourse, &c. And if a stronger and more convenient light was at any time needed, it consisted of a burning *pine knot* set up on end like a torch-light. And when strangers or extra nice company visited a family, the long known and venerable *tallow candle* and candle-stick, then considered very pretty and fashionable, graced the table. And as time passed on, the *oil of the whale* and *lard*, the fat of the pig, were used for the same purpose in certain vessels called *lamps*. And these were also accompanied or followed by various sorts of candles termed *wax* candles, *spermaceti* candles, *stearine* candles, and *composition* candles after the chief ingredient or ingredients composing them. And these have, in their turn, given way to gas, camphene, burning fluid and cannel oil, and other oils now issuing in copious streams from the bowels of our mother earth in Western Pennsylvania, and other parts of our country. An exact description of all these artificial means of light would be interesting, but I pass that by for some other writer to perform, as my object is simply to notice the progress that our world has been making in, and also the relative *cheapness and safety* of the several articles used for producing artificial light. For thousands of persons have lost their lives, or been injured for life, by the use of camphene or burning fluid as a light. And the use of our cannel, and other oils, may also, it is said, unless great care be taken in keeping the oil closed up air-tight, by igniting the whole mass of oil within the vessel, or lamp, cause a dangerous explosion of its contents in our eyes and faces. And so we had better resort to something else to light up our houses. The following quotation from Brand's "Dictionary of Science, Literature and Art," will give us some idea of the relative cheapness of our various lights: "In reference to the comparative cost of coal gas, oil, tallow and wax, it appears that the cost of a lamp fed by gas and giving the light of seven candles will be about one penny sterling per hour; of an Argand lamp fed with spermaceti oil about three pence, of mould candles about three pence half-penny, and of wax candles about one shilling. Ninety cubic feet of good coal gas, value about one shilling sterling, will produce the light of about ten wax candles for one hour (tit. *candles*.) The prime cost of gas in London is about four or five shillings per 1000 cubic feet; the usual retail price is from seven to ten shillings per 1000 cubic feet. * * * The cost of light equivalent to that of seven mould candles, six to the pound, is in coal gas three-fourth pence per hour; in an Argand oil-lamp three pence per hour; in mould candles three and a fourth pence per hour, in wax candles one shilling two pence per hour. (tit. *Gas Illumination*.) A gallon of common whale oil yields from 90 to 100 cubical feet of gas. And an Argand burner, giving the light of six or seven wax candles, consuming from 1½ to 2 cubical feet per hour, whereas, to produce the same light, from 5 to 6 cubic feet of coal gas are required (tit. *Oil Gas*.) Cooley, in his Book of Useful Knowledge, says: One gallon of whale oil yields from 90 to 100 cubical feet of gas, which gives a more brilliant light than coal gas, and burning about three cubical feet of gas, which gives a more brilliant light than coal gas and burns about three times as long, (tit. *Oil Gas*.) What the cost of our Pennsylvania earth-oil aforesaid when purified (*kerosine*) would be as compared with the foregoing sources of light, I am unable to say for want of sufficient data. From the above quotations, however, it is evident that good gas light is at least three times cheaper than our spermaceti whale oil light, and more than three times cheaper than our mould candle light, and twelve times cheaper than our wax candle light in England. And it is fair to presume that this is equally true in our own country. And gas companies can afford their illuminating gas at this low rate, as compared with our tallow candles, and still make money at the business. But gas has its dangerous qualities too, as it may, if not properly managed, escape from the pipe, fill our room, and in coming into contact with a candle or other light ignite and set our building on fire, though this may easily be prevented, as escaping gas is easily known by the disagreeable smell which it emits in escaping into the air—and as its presence in a room may readily be removed by opening its doors and windows. But this is not all of the danger, for Professor Henry, of Washington City, has shown us in the Patent Office Agricultural Report, for 1859, that *gas pipes*, fixed in the interior of a room or building operate, although they do not extend up to or through its roof, as powerful attractors of lightning, and so endanger our lives and property in that way. And hence I am inclined to think that we have not yet attained the cheapest, best and safest article for lighting up our houses attainable by man. It may be necessary to say that the Argand lamp, so called after the name of its inventor, is in the principles of its construction substantially like those beautiful parlor lamps that now adorn the tables and mantle-pieces of our dwelling-houses—and that *lard*, though objectionable in some respects, is perhaps on the whole as cheap and as safe and as good a light as we can use in our houses. But I would be glad to have the views and experience of others on the subject. We also see from the above that *whale oil gas* gives a stronger and better light than coal gas, but its manufacture is said to be a good deal more expensive than that of coal gas.

WEST-BRANCH.

December, 1860.

[Written for the Dollar Newspaper—Philada.]

PRESERVATION OF POSTS, ETC.

There appears to be considerable interest manifested as to the best method of preserving posts. That attention should be directed to a matter of such importance is not to be wondered at, when we consider that every year timber is becoming more scarce. The substantiability of fences in this country is a matter which should call out the ingenuity of our best scientific men. I believe that composition and solutions, whether of gas-tar, water-glass, creosote, or what not, will all eventually fail in effectually preserving timber from decay produced by the action of the atmosphere and the earth combined. It is quite certain that in a short time, comparatively, these solutions lose their preserving qualities, and the timber finds a rapid decay.

"B. W. R.," in last week's "Newspaper," asks the following question: "Why would not a remedy like either of the above answer for posts, by making them impervious to air or water, and therefore indestructible by decay?" The remedy he speaks of, consists in solutions of the kind mentioned; and, as I said before, these solutions appear to afford only a temporary remedy. I would here say, that a *perfect remedy* has been hit upon by Mr. James Holland, a resident of this place. He has invented a post-butt, which is composed of fire, or potter's clay. It is made in cylindrical form, of any required size. Into this butt the post is inserted, leaving a space between the post and the butt of say three-quarters of an inch, which space is then filled with molten pitch, which, when cold, becomes perfectly hard and weather proof. These butts are burned in a potter's kiln until they are perfectly hard, and will last for ages. They have the advantage also of being *very cheap*, and within the reach of every farmer or gardener. In planting these butts in the ground, they should be allowed to extend about four inches above the surface, as the action of decay seems to be greatest at the surface of the earth.

C. D.

Conshohocken, Pa., 1861.

[Written for the Dollar Newspaper—Philada.]

BUILDING FENCE.

Intending during the coming year to build considerable fence, and having but little means to do it with, I have for some time past been trying to find out the most economical way, both regarding material and labor, to procure a substantial and tidy fence. I may have formed a correct conclusion, and may not; if not, I should like much to have those more experienced than myself, show me wherein my error consists, and, if I mistake not, many a farmer would consider a practical consideration of fence-building as worthy of his attention. As many are now employed in getting out material for fence, and some may be like myself, figuring upon it, I will present the result of my thoughts and observations, and shall feel paid if it shall possibly even set some thinking anew for themselves.

In this section rails are the common fencing material, and Shanghae, worm, patent, and post-and-rail fence, the usual styles of architecture. Board fence is seen at intervals. Shanghae is a species of worm-fence on stilts. It is no fence, except against large stock, and is decidedly unsubstantial, still, in some sections, a good deal is built, because it can be built of light stuff, and very rapidly. Common laid worm-fence is the most prevalent, but this requires a good deal of timber and considerable land for a little fence. In the first place, it must be at least six or eight rails high and often staked and ridered at that. In the next place, the rails must be large and heavy to keep them in their places. Twenty feet of rails will not make more than fourteen or fifteen feet of gain on a straight line. Again, it will keep nearly ten feet in width from the plow, besides being crooked and unsightly to the eye of neat farmers, and a prime brush nursery. Many lay the rails straight and put blocks across the end. This is less objectionable but requires heavy timber, and consequently waste, and uses up five or six feet of land. Patent fences exists here more in advertisements and patent rights for sale than in actual lumber; still some are seen. Of these I have only seen two kinds adapted to the use of rails. These were both worm fences, and the panels clamped or locked at the ends. Being fastened with the side of one at the end of the other, if one panel stood out of level the next would stand out of plumb. On uneven ground this would cause a winding, unsightly fence and unsubstantial. In fact, one piece I saw had nearly as much timber in false posts and braces as would be needed for posts of a firm fence; and, oh! such a writhing concern. In common post-and-rail fence I think the waste less, the cost less, and the labor less than in any other I can find.

First.—The rails need not be much more than half the average size required in worm and block fences.

Second.—Every twenty feet of rails will build at least eighteen feet of straight fence, and more, if nailed or pinned on.

Third.—It can be built plumb on all land, is a straight, pretty, clean fence, taking not more than two feet of land from the plow, and, calling the posts equal to the blocks, stakes, and riders, which, in fact they are not, being actually less, it saves at least two rails in height and one-fourth or one-fifth of the length of rails; including the splitting and drawing of the rails, especially if drawn any considerable distance, I can but consider it a saving of labor also.

As regards the method of building post-and-rail fence, they are to be somewhat determined by circumstances. In setting posts, some kinds of soil are so hard that digging the holes is a serious objection on the score of labor. In such places, however, stone is apt to form a prominent article for fencing. In other soils a post-auger will sink them rapidly, and in still others a spade is preferable. In many places, especially on prairie, the posts well sharpened may be easily driven with a large beetle by a man standing on a light, moveable stool, if the time be taken, in the spring just after the frost has left the ground, so it is soft. In fastening on the rails some prefer pinning them, but this requires considerable labor in making pins and boring holes. Others nail them on, first flattening the ends. This is the fastest way, but after a year or two they are apt to come off, from the nails breaking, and if oak or any other hard rails are used, there is not much fun in nailing them on again.

I think I shall use mortised posts. They make the most firm, substantial fence, and as for labor, a man with a good post axe will mortice more posts in a day than one would first imagine. Now, perhaps, some of your old wiseheads will smile at the thought of my having studied on the subject of fencing, and finally coming back to old-fashioned mortise post-and-rail fence; but it is the best that I can do, and if any such can tell a simpler, more economical way, I doubt not but that they would confer a favor on many an inquiring farmer by making it public. In fact it is frequently the most simple subject that puzzles the practical farmer the most.

EVERY DAY.

[Written for the Dollar Newspaper—Philada.]

TREE CULTURE.

The cultivation of trees, especially the peach tree, requires attention, in one particular too much neglected, and that is *respiration*—I mean breathing. A tree breathes, or rather should be allowed to breathe in its way, as freely as an animal in its way. It breathes through the bark as the animal through the skin, and through its leaves as through the lungs, and drinks in moisture by the roots. The experiment I have made is the following: In company with my neighbors I set out peach, plum and cherry trees, and after setting in the usual way I every day or two applied the hoe or iron rake to pulverize and loosen the soil for two or three inches deep, occupying about one or two minutes to a tree. This was continued through the dry season. My trees all lived and put on a vigorous growth of deep-green foliage throughout the heavy drought of summer, while nearly all the trees of my neighbors were sickly and wilted by the heat. The bark also is gently scraped or rubbed to prevent nesting places for insects. By this method I gave the trees every natural capacity to absorb moisture and nutritive gases from the air and self-protection from heavy rains, and excluded their natural enemies, the insect and the worm. I can get a good crop of apples and peaches every year in spite of every form of hostility by foreign enemies.

J. H. W.

Hamilton County, O., 1861.

[Written for the Dollar Newspaper—Philada.]

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

CORN BY MEASUREMENT.—*Athens, Bradford County, Pa.*—In the last "Dollar Newspaper," "C. H." gives a rule for measuring corn in the ear, in bulk, to ascertain the number of bushels of ears in a given crib or wagon body, and also the number of bushels of shelled corn, in answer to a subscriber. Now so far as giving the number of bushels of shelled corn a given box will hold, the rule given by "C. H.," is correct, for that rule must give the precise number of bushels *struck* measure. But "C. H." seems to have lost sight of the fact that, in measuring corn in the ear, it is necessary to *heap* the measure. At least such is the fact in all this section of the country, and in all the Northern and Eastern States, where the smaller varieties of corn are raised. Of course the variety of the corn will somewhat vary the amount to be heaped on the measure; some of the Western and Southern corn giving a bushel of shelled corn from a bushel and a half of ears heaped measure. I disremember the number of inches in a *coal bushel*, but I think it adds about one-fourth to the grain bushel, which would give, in round numbers, about 2812 inches, and I think this is about the standard for potatoes and corn in the ear. But I propose to give my rule for getting the number of bushels of shelled corn in a given crib of corn in the ear, which is as follows: Get the cubic feet contents and multiply the product by 3 1-5, and cut off the right hand figure, and you have the number of bushels of shelled corn in bushels and decimals. For instance, to use the example given by "C. F.," 10 feet 3 inches x 3 feet 3 inches x 2 feet 2 inches=74.95 x 3.1-5=23.98 bushels. By my rule, then, a wagon body of the dimensions given would hold 23.98 bushels shelled corn, and two bushels of ears to one of shelled corn would give 47.96 bushels of ears. This rule will be found conveniently and sufficiently near for practical purposes. I might go on and give the figures to show its correctness, and the reason why, but it would occupy too much room.

J. F. O.

BEARDLESS BARLEY.—My attention has been called to an inquiry made by "W. C.," in a late copy of the "Dollar Newspaper," in which he asks for some information about Beardless Barley. I have raised a small crop of this new variety of grain the past season and am much pleased with it. It is a thrifty grower and presents a beautiful appearance when in blossom, on account of the large yellow blossoms which stud each head. It is entirely free from those annoying beards that make our common barley so disagreeable to handle, and it appears to yield as well as the common barley. The grain is skinless and has somewhat the appearance of wheat, only the seed is of a different shape, and it weighs about the same as wheat. It is sown in the spring and cultivated the same as common barley. It promises to be a desirable kind and may prove a valuable addition to our varieties of grain. "W. C." inquires where the seed can be got. I have some of it to spare, and will freely send a package of it to any farmer that asks for it, and sends me, say, 10 or 15 cents to prepay the postage, &c. A letter directed, M. A. Dickson, Chili, Ohio, will reach me. If a very large package is wanted, of course the more money must be sent to pay the postage.

A FARMER.

WINTER BUTTER.—*Delaware Co., O.*—I have read and tried a great many different ways for the management of milk in winter, and have finally, after many experiments, come to the conclusion that the following is the best of the many ways that have been tried by myself or neighbors. In winter I use tin pans. I strain the milk in the pans as soon as possible after milking, set the pans on the stove until the milk gets quite warm, not to boiling heat, but a good deal warmer than when first milked. I then set it away as usual. I find the cream rises a great deal quicker, and more of it, than if it had not been warmed. The butter is free from that strong taste which it will have if the milk sets several days. After churning I always work the butter over immediately, then let it set over night and give it a second thorough working. The butter is sweet and solid and will keep better than if made from old cream.

LU.

[Written for the Dollar Newspaper—Philada.]

DWARF BROOMCORN.

The average specimens of this valuable novelty are about four feet high. As this is not *half* the height of the common variety, it may be grown much thicker on the ground. It being shorter and very close jointed it is less liable to be blown down than the common variety. The upper leaf sheath embraces about one half of the brush, this with its low growth saves the otherwise necessity of *breaking down;* the brush being about two feet long and of excellent quality, yields about twice as many brooms per acre as the common kind. When the plant is first visible above the ground, it makes a rapid growth till the plants are about six inches high, when it grows very slow. It should be harvested as soon as the seed is hardened, and before severe frosts come on. In gathering, grasp the brush in one hand and the top leaf in the other, and separating the hands with a rapid jerk right and left, which will break off the stalk at the first joint, leaving four to six inches of stem attached to the brush. When rightly manufactured it makes a splendid broom.

J. H. M.

Wheatland Mills, Pa., 1860.

[Written for the Dollar Newspaper—Philada.]

RECIPE.

CIDER.—Among the different recipes I have seen in the "Dollar Newspaper" for keeping cider sweet, I have seen none I think better than the old-fashioned way of putting a quart of fine charcoal to a barrel of cider. Another good way is to put in a couple of quarts of pure alcohol, or, what is still better, a gallon of brandy, but more expensive.

SCIENCE AND ART.

INVENTIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

MANUFACTURE OF FIRE-BRICKS.—In making fire-bricks, the clay, after being dug out, is exposed to the atmosphere for some days, and sometimes for weeks, before it is removed to the mill, where it is ground into a coarse powder with a mixture of about one-sixth of old burnt clay. The common mill used for grinding it is simply two large stones or cast-iron wheels set on an edge and revolved by a shaft in suitable bearings in a trough into which the clay is fed. The trough or bed-plate in which the clay is ground is of cast-iron, and as the clay is reduced to a proper fineness it falls into receptacle, from which it is carried away by a conveyer similar to that in a grist-mill, and is then deposited in a common pug-mill where it is mixed with water and thoroughly kneaded into a proper condition to render it fit for moulding. These bricks are moulded like building bricks, and are afterwards exposed to heat in a warm apartment, where they are thoroughly dried preparatory to being burned. For this purpose they are placed in kilns similar in form and construction to those employed for baking pottery-ware. Here they are subjected to a very high heat, and it generally takes constant firing for five days before fifteen thousand bricks can be burned in a kiln fourteen feet in diameter and ten feet high. The firing of such bricks must be conducted with great care. They are so laid on their edges, one above another and in rows, that spaces of about half an inch are left between the lines. These spaces answer the purpose of minute flues; the flame and hot gases pass through them up to the chimney which is situated at the back end of the kiln.

USES OF BRAZIL WOOD.—Brazil wood, so called because the tree that affords it is the growth of the Brazils, is capable of a good polish, and is so hard that it sinks in water. Its color is pale when newly cut, but it becomes deeper by exposure to the air. The various specimens differ in the intensity of their color, but the heaviest is reckoned the most valuable. If the Brazil wood be boiled in water for a sufficient time, it will communicate a fine red color to that fluid. The residue is very dark colored, and gives out a considerable portion of coloring matter to a solution of alkali. Alcohol extracts the color from Brazil wood, as does likewise the volatile alkali, and both these are deeper than the aqueous solution. The spiritous tincture stains warm marble of a deepish red, inclining to purple, which on a greater heat becomes violet; and if the stained marble be covered with wax, and considerably heated, it changes through all the shades of brown, and at last becomes fixed of a chocolate color. The colors imparted to cloth by Brazil wood are of little permanence. A very minute portion of alkali, or even soap, darkens it into purple. Hence paper stained with it may be used as a test of saturation with the salts. Alum added to the decoction of this wood occasions a fine crimson red precipitate or lake, which is increased in quantity by the addition of alkali to the liquor. The crimson red color is also precipitated by muriate of tin, but it is darkened by the salts of iron. Acids change it to yellow, from which, however, solution of tin restores it to its natural hue.

ORNAMENTAL USES OF AMBER.—Prussia is almost the only country by which amber is furnished for ornamental purposes. The most extensive use of this elegant material is for the manufacture of the mouth-pieces of meerschaum pipes and hookahs. Up to the present day amber mouth-pieces continue in great request in the East, where they bring very high prices, and almost all the Prussian amber is sold to the Turks for manufacturing these articles, some of these amber mouth-pieces for pipes being sold as high as one thousand dollars each.

The clay of which meerschaums are made is procured chiefly in Asia Minor, but also in Spain, Greece and Moravia. The manufacture of pipes from the clay is carried on with especial care at Vienna and Pesth. The meerschaum is soaked in a liquified composition of wax, oil and fat, the absorption of which occasions the colors assumed by the pipe after smoking. Occasionally the bowls are artificially stained by dipping them in a solution of copperas and other substances before the application of the wax composition. The carving of the bowls is often difficult work, owing to the occurrence of a kind of clay mixed up with and harder than the meerschaum. The large quantity of parings left in roughing out the bowls would entail considerable loss unless some process had been devised for using them. This has been done; the parings being employed in making the kind of meerschaum bowls called massa-bowls, and which are distinguished from the real meerschaum chiefly by being rather heavier.

TRANSFER ENGRAVING.—The process of transfer engraving practised at the Bank of England, is to anneal at one time four cast iron boxes, each containing from three to six steel plates, surrounded on all sides with fine charcoal mixed with an equal quantity of chalk, and driven hard. The reverberatory furnace employed has a circular cast iron plate or bed upon which the four boxes are fastened by wedges, and as the plate revolves very slowly and continually by the steam engine employed in working the printing presses and other machinery, the plates are exposed in the most equal manner to the heat, and when the proper temperature is attained all the apertures are carefully closed and luted to extend the cooling over a space of at least forty-eight hours.

The surfaces of the cylinders and plates are thus rendered exceedingly soft to the depth of about the thirty-second of an inch—so as to become more like lead than anything else—and thus, much of their surfaces must be turned or planed off; the device is raised upon the transfer press upon the natural soft steel of the rollers, under a pressure of some tons, and these are hardened without any intentional application of the case-hardening process, as the simple steel is in all respects very superior to that which has been decarbonized and reconverted. The plates themselves are used in the soft state, as they then admit of reparation by the transfer rollers, and the process is found to be more economical, as the risk of warping is avoided, and they may be easily repaired. The dates and numbers are at present printed as a second process by letter-press printing.

SIMPLE FORM OF SCREW PROPELLER.—It is stated that a small steamer of novel construction has lately been plying on the Serpentine, London. It is on the principle of the double canoe. This twin-boat is, in fact, raised out of the water and supported upon two pontoons of a cylindrical form of two feet in diameter, and eighteen feet long. These pontoons of tubes are each filled with a solid conical spiral screw at the stem, driven by a direct centre shaft worked in the usual manner. The propellers are made to act together, or in opposite directions, in such a way that the vessel is driven by one or both, and may be turned in a sweep of little more than her own length. This boat was built in Bristol, and in its passage to London it towed two barges laden with ninety tons of stone in shallow water, at the rate of three miles an hour, with twenty pounds' steam pressure in the boiler. This propeller is only three tons burden, and, from the accounts given would seem to be very efficient.

VALUABLE METALLIC ALLOY.—An important invention has been published by Messrs. Noel & Co., of Paris. It relates to the production or manufacture of a new metallic alloy, which is easily melted, and when cast forms a species of cast steel capable of being substituted for ordinary steel; and consequently, when used in the construction of machinery, obviating to a great extent, the use of forgings. The principal bases of this alloy are wrought iron and cast iron, the proportions of which are varied according to the degree of hardness required. To the bases here mentioned are added oxydized iron ore free from sulphur, manganese, nitrate of potash and chlorhydaite of ammonia.

SABBATH IN THE COUNTRY.

The creaking wagon's in the shed;
The busy flail is heard no more;
The horse is littered down and fed,
The harness hangs above his head,
The whip behind the door.

His leathern gloves and hooked bill
To day the woodman throws aside:
The blacksmith's fiery forge is still,
The wooden wheel of the old mill
Sleeps in the mill dam wide.

The miller's boat is anchored where,
Far out, the water lilies sleep;
You see their shadows mirrored there,
The broad white flowers reflected clear,
Within the mill-pond deep.

The harrow's in the garden shed,
Hoe, rake and spade are put away;
Unweeded stands the onion bed,
The gardener from his work hath fled;
'Tis holy Sabbath day.

Upon the wall the white cat sleeps,
By which the churn and milk pans lie;
A drowsy watch the house dog keeps,
And scarcely from his dull eye peeps
Upon the passer-by.

And sweetly over hill and dale
The silvery sounding church bells ring;
Across the moor and down the dale
They come and go, and on the gale
Their Sabbath tidings fling.

From where the whitewashed 'Sunday school
Peeps out between the poplars dim,
Which ever throw their shadows cool
Far out upon the rushy pool,
You hear the Sabbath hymn.

From farm and field, and grange grown gray,
From woodland walk and winding way,
The old and young, and grave and gay,
Unto the old church come to pray,
And sing God's holy praise.

MISCELLANEOUS.

[Correspondence of the Dollar Newspaper]

LETTER FROM PARIS.

PARIS, November 10, 1860.

How to Travel in Europe.—The first principle to get into your head firmly, is that baggage is a nuisance. It makes you late in getting to the hotel for choice of rooms, and it puts you up four pair of stairs if it is once inside the hall, for you are then in the power of the landlord. In Europe your trunk must be registered, and its weight accurately known, that you may pay the overplus of the varying allowance. Until this is done you cannot secure a seat. Everybody, meanwhile, must be paid extra for looking after baggage. It is an extra charge, by law, in every cab and omnibus. When you arrive at a frontier station, your trunk is again an expense and a delay. You must have it handled, and you must open it and wait your turn to be overhauled.

We find a simple satchel sufficient for a tour of Europe, such as you can carry on your finger and take with you in the cars. Wear one suit of clothes, and buy new what is wanted, wherever you are. Take three or four shirts only, washing is done everywhere on the day you order it. This system saves incidentally enough to keep you in new clothing, and collaterally it pays the richest return. You can't conceive with how small a quantity of luggage one can travel now-a-days.

When you land in Europe, the best laid plans at home will be found open to variations and radical changes. You can only make a general programme. It is best to keep yourself free to join company with parties going routes that may be agreeable.

If you travel for health and to see the world, beware of picture worshippers. If pictures are your pleasure, you will find enough of every shade of merit in Paris alone, to weary your eye and last you for a twelvemonth.

To save time, a commissioner or guide is indispensable at every city. You must be yourself a guide to them also, or they will race you unprofitably around to see churches which differ little from each other, which leave no remembrance. To make travel profitable, you want to see how people live in other countries and in what their institutions differ from ours. You also wish to compare the countries with your own in their scenery, cultivation, etc You expect to breathe a new air! but the air wherever you go, will be tobacco smoke. You will do well not to expect comfort at hotels. The article is not there. But clever people you will find everywhere. If you except Vienna, you will find the cost of living reasonable; and you need not fear imposition from cabmen. The hotel charges always include servants' fees in all countries north of Italy. We cannot speak of Italy nor Spain. Wherever gratuities seem proper or usual, the expectation is moderate.

The usual complaints of Americans are of the digestive organs. These, if not too deeply seated, are almost always relieved and often cured partly by change of diet and by being coaxed into physical exercise—going the rounds. The derangement of the mental machinery, consequent generally upon stomach diseases, is removed very soon. But if you would keep the improvement, you must not return to your old habits—working your brains evermore, and swallowing saleratus, fried lard, hot cakes and lager beer and [illegible]. If your trouble is always having a cold, live and sleep with good ventilation, and that difficulty is removed. To ladies we may say in addition, put inside of your shoes a single thickness of hatter's felting—a piece of a worn out soft-hat is excellent—never go out without this and you will thank us for our counsel.

We wish we could persuade all persons to believe that some of the worst forms of neuralgia, rheumatism and kidney diseases, may be escaped by thickening the clothing of the spinal column, especially at the loins, where the first chill usually strikes. Why should the winter waistcoat be of wadded cloth in front, and of thin muslin over the spine and loins? It will be well for invalids to try the substitutions of the plain wines of Europe, for tea and coffee, as the natives do. The constant use of saleratus in bread and cakes combined with lard, makes a soap factory of the stomach and bowels, and the sub acid wines tend to restore them to health.

If you can adopt the fashionable tourist's conceit about the extravagant beauties of the old pictures, and also fancy that you can see their points of merit, it is a capital beguilement for a mind that has only a moderate scope. We know travellers who talk of nothing else, but who really have no judgment whatever in that way. Yesterday, at breakfast, two such were praising the hand in a picture, which an artist had mentioned. The artist came in while this was going on, and he at once detected that it was the wrong hand they had so much applauded.

An American gentleman, who has practised a profession here for some years, assured us that a person in his employment has made a fortune by selling fictitious antiquities to foreigners. His practice is to buy cheap pictures, suited to the conversion. These he smokes, and sells at extensive figures. We have seen his collection, and we must confess that if we had any leaning for old paintings, which we have not, however, we would be easily deceived. Their appearance is antique enough in all conscience, and the eye has the usual straining that the celebrated antiquities require to make much sense of them. Above all things, do not, in travelling, make your own country the standard of perfection. Take things as they are, and accommodate yourself to every change—then you will return to your home with a better appreciation of our own institutions and a disposition to contentment.

Eau de Cologne.—We found at Cologne more than 300 manufacturers of this perfume, who each styles himself the only genuine Jean Maria Farina! The truth is, there is no longer any peculiar excellence about the article made at Cologne, and much of the greater bulk of it is inferior. To get good cologne water, go to Fred. Brown's, ask that it be made there, and you will, at one fourth of the cost of the foreign article, get the best perfume that can be made. It will be a satisfaction to know you cannot get anything there that is not the very best; and you also know, for certain, that there is only one Fred. Brown.

Brussels Lace.—From the celebrity of the article and from the quantity consumed, one supposes that it is made in large manufactories. But it is almost entirely the make of small capitalists, in small apartments. A few girls are seen with a pattern in pins standing before each, and a number of threads, each having a handle at the extremity. The lace is made by passing selected threads through certain mazes in the upright pin work, to form the given design. The fingers and threads fly with great rapidity, and the toil is very tedious and confining. The visiters are informed by handbills, that whatever is given by them forms a fund for the benefit of the operative girls. This is an excellent appropriation. France takes great pains to protect her manufacturers in this branch of industry from the close competition of Belgium. But a large proportion of Brussels lace is smuggled by railroad lady passengers in a great variety of curious ways. Could the types present to your readers some select variations of French ingenuity in this act of concealment, the Ledger would turn scarlet.

ANTHRAX.

TERRIBLE INUNDATION.

Breaking of the Dike—Distress among the People.

A correspondent of the London Daily News, writing from Rotterdam, on the 15th January, describes a terrible inundation which had occurred in Holland.

"In the beginning of January it was observed that the vast accumulations of snow in this district was causing the rise of the river to a dangerous extent. With anxiety and dread the inhabitants watched the daily increase of the invading waters, now laden with immense masses of ice, and strenuously exerted themselves to strengthen the resistance offered by those artificial barriers by which alone Holland is preserved from total submersion. But still the flood rose, and the ice masses formed themselves, as it were, into huge battering rams, pressing with their irresistible strength against the dikes and dams. At last a bulging out in the dike directed the anxious gaze of all to one spot—for the waters were pressing hard upon it. With the strength and energy of despair, they tried to stay the progress of the flood as it sought egress from its narrow channel into their fields and dwellings. Xerxes as well tried to bind the ocean in chains.

"Suddenly, the dyke yielded, and the waters poured through—the ice-masses and the flood rose above it, and swept on in their terrific course, submerging fields, barns and cottages, drowning the cattle, destroying all. The aged and the sick, the women and children, sought a refuge in their attics, where, benumbed with cold, without bedding, clothes, fire or provisions, they had to pass days of inexpressible terror—of horrible starvation. For a long time it was impossible to approach them, and it is feared many a cottage has been swept away in the flood, and its inhabitants frozen to death on the ice masses.

"As I write, fresh intelligence arrives from the inundated districts, detailing additional scenes of wretchedness—people dying from hunger and cold; their houses cut away by the ice, as the corn is mown down by the harvester's scythe; a church which has stood hundreds of years swept down, as a puff of wind sweeps down a house of cards; and the prospect is even yet more fearful. Holland has often suffered much from inundations, but never within the memory of living man has an inundation been accompanied with so much distress and destruction—with so much heart-rending grief and despair."

MR. RAREY, THE HORSE TAMER.

Mr. Rarey has been giving at Niblo's Garden, New York, a successful exhibition of his power in taming a refractory horse. The Tribune gives the following account of the performance:

Mr. J. S. Rarey, the widely celebrated horse-tamer, appeared before an American audience, for the first time, on Saturday afternoon, at Niblo's Garden. Public curiosity in relation to him, his system, and his living witnesses of its efficacy, was to the average sensation standard, and consequently demanded much. Public curiosity is assured now, that the horse-tamer has not jockeyed the foreign world, and that the spirit of Barnum is in no wise connected with him. Mr. Rarey says, "Give me a constitutionally vicious horse, two innocent looking straps, and fifteen minutes time, and I will send you back your animal, safe and sound, gentle and quiet. I have done so hundreds of times, I can do so thousands." Mr. Rarey proved himself equal to the fulfilment of this difficult task on Saturday last.

He is a philosopher on the horse question, and reasons out his simple theory for you in an open, straightforward manner; so that, unless you are more chronically self-willed than ever Lord Dorchester's Cruiser was, you will admit that his premises are sensible, his arguments just, and his conclusions inevitable. As a lecturer he is ahead of most men who follow the business. He practically illustrates every idea as he puts it forward.

His secret is no secret, after witnessing one experiment. An indomitable firmness, combined with extreme gentleness of character, produce those marvellous conversions of spirited horseflesh that have raised him to pre-eminence in his profession. It is related of a Saint who lived during the middle ages, that he used, by a simple act of will, to cause the birds of the forest to fly toward him, and carol merrily for his amusement, hours at a time. After seeing Mr. Rarey's exploits, it is about as safe to disbelieve the legend as it is to doubt his entire success. The only difference that carries weight between the two cases is, that the bird charmer's performances were in direct contradiction to all known laws of nature, while those of the horse-tamer are wholly in accordance with them.

In appearance, Mr. Rarey is simply a good-looking-gentleman—this is a point in his favor as regards horses, for the horse judges as much of a man's disposition from his exterior, as men do themselves. So Mr. Rarey says, and he appears to know rather more about his business than any one else.

When he was twelve years old he entered upon his vocation but besides breaking rude colts, and untutored steeds, he very soon broke every limb of his body, save his right arm. Being a mere boy, however, these little mishaps proved of no account, and he stands before the world now in perfect condition. He says that he founded his system upon observation and long experience, and the keystone of the whole is contained in the concise aphorism, "The mild power is great." Exercised by him upon unsubjugated equine monsters, it certainly is.

The theatre contained between four and five thousand spectators, among whom were prominent divines, judges, lawyers, historians, journalists, novelists, artists, merchants and bankers, as well as turf men, gamblers, livery stable keepers, young men of means, hotel clerks, and a hundred or more ladies. The gas was lighted. The orchestra was vacant—the saying that "music hath charms, &c.," being about to be rendered obsolete, or at least made to give way to a line crediting Mr Rarey with that power instead. The stage was fenced in on four sides, and the space thus inclosed was well covered with sawdust and straw. That part of the fence facing the auditorium consisted of five stakes joined by three stout ropes, so that a clear view could be had beyond; and at the same time all danger well guarded against.

At a few minutes after three, Mr. Rarey came tripping through the straw, and made his bow amid great applause. As soon as the cordial ovation was over, he remarked:

Ladies and Gentlemen—I have here to-day several subjects upon which I will endeavor to explain my system. When I went to England and exhibited there, the papers all said, "This is very well, but try Cruiser." I immediately wrote to Lord Dorchester about the horse, and he replied that the horse could not be brought to me, but that I must come to him. I did go to him. The horse had not been out of his box for three years; a brick stable had to be built for him, and he would have been shot, but that he was the last of a race of splendid blood horses, and his owner was anxious to preserve him, if possible. I found that by his biting and kicking he had so injured himself that he could not be taken out of his box, and so I had to wait for his recovery. I went down to see him quietly and unknown; but somehow the papers got hold of it, and everybody said that I dared not go near Cruiser. Under this I had to remain three weeks, and then I was able to take him to London. I will now show you Cruiser.

Withdrawing for a moment, Mr. Rarey returned, leading the renowned Cruiser upon the stage. The people applauded. Cruiser is a well formed stallion, of a dark bay color, and has a fiery eye. His tail is cropped after the fashion of English racers. Altogether he looks well. His owner exhibited the collar and muzzle which he used to wear, and went on to explain the process by which he brought the noble blood to a sense of his inferiority. The horse followed his master around with apparent pleasure, suffered himself to be led by a straw, laid down and submitted to all manner of familiarities. He, however, evinced a disposition to act refractorily after a few moments. This Mr. Rarey explained as resulting from an injury on shipboard, which rendered him fretful, and made it painful for him to lie down or submit to control. In jumping suddenly from the floor while Mr. Rarey was swinging his (the horse's) head backward and forward, the gentleman's safety seemed for a moment jeopardized, but a dexterous roll from under his hoofs placed him out of harm's way, and in an instant more he had secured the halter and quieted the beast. Cruiser then retired.

A large white horse, belonging to Col. Burnham, was now introduced. Mr. Rarey stated that he had never seen the animal until that afternoon, and that he had never spoken to or touched him. He was not considered very vicious, his chief defects being nervousness and a habit of pulling heavily. Mr. Rarey observed that he wished to use him first in order to explain and demonstrate his system, and this could not be done so well with a dangerous horse. He then expatiated upon the influences to which a horse's mind is subjected, and their effect upon him; also, his natural disposition, which is exceedingly affectionate. Said he, the horse is as sensitive as you are. It is just as bad to catch him by the face as it would be to catch your friends by the face. But see, you can do anything with his head if you but use kindness. Take it in your arms; put it under your arms; put it in your pocket, if it were large enough. Mr. Rarey fondled the horse, which seemed gentle during the operation, although he had a moment before exhibited great nervousness. The lecturer resumed: Now, I never saw this horse before; he is a stranger to me, and yet you see he follows me about. [The horse walked briskly after Mr. Rarey.] The owner says that he is a hard puller, and can't be driven, he pulls so hard upon the driver. I can lead him by a straw. [The attempt was made with success.] He next went through with the operation of strapping the animal's fore legs, beginning with the left. After having securely bound the lower to the upper joint of the leg, the horse is allowed to limp about as best he can upon the triplet that remains to him.

Then the other leg is secured in like manner, which necessarily brings the creature down upon his knees. In this condition, all efforts on his part at rising, are useless, and sooner or later, from fatigue or fright, he gives up, and falls over upon one side in the straw. It was thus great Cruiser fell, and thus must all succumb who are placed in Mr. Rarey's hands. Being once convinced that he is powerless, and further that his master means him no harm, he soon becomes perfectly tractable, and will not offer to resist any efforts to bridle, saddle, or harness him. Of course Mr. Rarey proceeds carefully and knowingly. In the present instance he jumped off and on the horse's back several times, in order to accustom him to the feeling; also, he moved his head about and played with his feet placing his hoofs over his own face, etc. After some five minutes or more he loosened the straps and suffered the horse to rise, which he at once did. A drum was brought, and, after showing it to the horse several times, Mr. Rarey went behind him and tapped it—at first lightly and by degrees increasing the sound. He then placed it upon his back, and drummed heavily. The animal soon become used to it, and evinced no fear.

A new method of mounting was likewise shown the audience, and which, from its simplicity and ease, excited much interest. Mr. Rarey mounts while standing with his face toward the horse's head, instead of turning toward his tail, according to the prevailing fashion. The new method enables a man to get into the saddle even though it be unfastened, and merely resting lightly on the horse's back.

The next subject was a wild horse from South America, also a stranger to Mr. Rarey. This animal, a small, dark bay horse, with long flowing mane, proceeded to cut up a series of the most uncivilized pranks, as though it were upon its accustomed steppes. Mr. Rarey endeavored to mount several times, but failed. Some persons hinted that he could have stayed on, had he cared to, but of course they were only talkers. Ten minute's pressure of the inevitable straps, and Mr. Rarey's attentions cast the evil spirits out of this little brute, and rendered him as docile as a certain young lady's lamb of nursery rhyme notoriety.

Two Shetland ponies, beautiful specimens, were brought on after the conquered Southron had been led away. Mr. Rarey alluded briefly to the fact that these ponies, or horses properly, are, beyond a doubt descended directly from the horses of Arabia, but are stunted by bad food, treatment and weather. He considers the English blood horses superior to anything in Arabia at the present date, through which country he lately travelled.

Mr. Rarey then read the following letter from Mr. E. Luff:

HARLEM LANE.

MR. J. S. RAREY:—Having heard that you want vicious horses, I beg to inform you that I have a fine stallion which cost me $2700, but he is so vicious I have been able to do nothing with him for four years. He is the most vicious horse I ever saw. He has not been out of the stable and cannot be shod. He is vicious every way—biting, kicking, striking. I do not believe that you can do anything with him, but if you wish, you can try.

The horse thus characterized is named Joe Anderson, and was brought into the enclosure by two men, amid great excitement throughout the house. He was strongly muzzled, for, whether it be a fact or fiction, it is reported that he killed two boys by biting them. Precisely the same means as in the former cases soon brought the gay Anderson to terms, even so far as to allow Mr. Rarey to place his arm between his jaws and to clack his teeth together, after the muzzle had been removed. This unequivocal triumph established the lecturer in the good opinions of the immense audience, and he retired amid applause, only to be recalled to receive another and heavier round. Joe Anderson was taken care of by his groom, signalizing his first lesson in civilization by a tremendous neighing behind the scenes.

THE SEA.

It is extremely difficult to convey to a landsman and a resident exclusively in cities and towns the delight with which a marine naturalist dwells upon or returns to his beloved haunts on the wave-washed sands, and, more particularly, the long, low, projecting rocks, which, as they run out to sea, bear a hundred basin like hollows upon their emergent surfaces, each fringed with floating marine plants, filled with sea water, like the vases of the sea-nymph, and more than all holding crustaceans and star fishes, and sea-snails, and naked-gilled molluscs, imprisoned beneath their weeds, and cut off from escape as securely as human prisoners on a deserted island—the former by the lack of adjoining water, the latter by the absence of contiguous land. These rock basins are, to the peering naturalist, tiny oceans. They are all that he can sound and search, while his feet stand upon *terra firma;* all that he can thoroughly scrutinize out of those infinite leagues of swelling waters which are to him, an earth-dweller, the nearest representative of an unbounded eternity of existence.

Human life itself in its separate cities and towns, is but a series of rock-basins a particular country is but a projecting headland, stretching forth into the vast area of terrestrial space. Terrestrial animals and plants inhabit circumscribed territories, even as those marine sea creatures and plants inhabit the rock-vases. On such a promontory, then, the enthusiastic marine student wanders from pool to pool, capturing treasure after treasure, learning something of their habits even when they swiftly elude him, watching with delight how even those tide deserted rock-basins hold enough of life and liquid to be microcosms of that immense oceanic repository of life, whose depths and dimensions surpass our knowledge, and whose liquid contents have been estimated at 12,000,000 cubic miles by the moderate calculation of De La Mettrie, and at no less than 500,000,000 by La Place, as reported by our author.

Let us try to conceive of but twelve millions of cubic miles of water, (and this we may suppose is much under the truth,) and of all those cubic miles as replete with appropriate life as the little rock-basins which mimic the mighty expanse and the unmeasured depths beyond them. Making all needful deductions for the decrease of marine life as we descend deeper and deeper, and approach that remote and desolate abyss of waters where life is either absent or would show faint glimmerings to mark its lingering presence, there yet remains enough of vitality in the superior zones to surpass our conception, and to fill us with astonishment and adoring admiration. So little, after all, do we really know of what lives crawling and gliding, darting and cleaving, boring and burrowing, clasping and crushing, reposing and shell-repairing, within those watery strata, that the generations of men yet to come will commiserate our ignorance, and men may as well dream of exhausting the many waters of the mighty ocean as its living wonders.

In this view the briefest and perhaps the most appropriate title we could bestow upon the sea would be, the Great Unknown. We smile when our children ply their industrious toys upon the shores, and yet what are the more advanced of us but mere children of a larger growth, scanning only the very edge of this vast vital repository; learning most of what we do learn from its cast up waste; feeding so to speak, upon the crumbs that fall from its broad table; seizing a short hour to examine its relinquished margin, or, still childlike, dipping our nets and dredges into its measureless profundity; forming adult toys for our parlors, furnishing a crystal aquarium with a waif or two, and even then finding more in its narrow boundary than we can perfectly understand?—*Athenæum.*

MANUFACTURE OF CALORS.

A late English traveller among the tribes of wandering Turkomans on the plains of Tarsus and the mountains of Syria, states that the art of dyeing brilliant colors is held in very high estimation among the females of the tribes. Every marriageable girl must first have first worked a carpet of more than ordinary beauty, colored with the choicest dyes, as a treasure for her marriage festival. From time immemorial the art of coloring textile fabrics has been greatly prized. In all manufacturing nations much attention is paid to "color chemistry," because superiority in this particular department is of the greatest consequence to mercantile success. France is distinguished for her silk, woollen and fine cotton fabrics, and the unrivalled skill of her color chemists; and the government of that empire generally selects the first chemist in the country to preside over the royal tapestry manufactory in Paris.

Vegetable substances have been, and are still, the most common coloring agents, but chemists have more recently devoted much attention to synthetical chemistry relating to the manufacture of mineral coloring compounds. When it is considered that almost every article of clothing, and most of the textile fabrics, such as carpets and curtains, that are employed in house furnishing, is colored, the amount of chemicals employed in the arts for this purpose must be prodigious. And when we also consider that some of these chemicals, such as cochineal and indigo are very costly, being from one to two dollars per pound, we can form some idea of the great annual expense incurred for them, especially when, for only three imported dye stuffs, viz., madder, indigo, cochineal, we pay about three millions of dollars per annum. Another reason why chemists have of late years devoted much attention to mineral colors, is the fluctuating supply of vegetable dyes, the most expensive of which are derived from annual crops. If we could obtain all our coloring substances from the same source as that from which we derive our iron, coal and marble, the supply would be constant, and the quantity limited only by the demand. Considerable success has already attended the efforts of chemists in their experiments to obtain mineral colors for textile fabrics, and yet the field for experiment has been merely scratched; it is still very inviting for thorough cultivation.

The bichromate of potash is a pure mineral substance for coloring yellow, and it has almost superseded quercitron bark and fustic; the arsenite of copper is also a purely mineral dye, but it should be prohibited because of its poisonous qualities; but above all these, the most curious and brilliant colors ever obtained, are the new aniline dyes, which are manufactured from that Hottentot perfume and refuse of gas works, coal tar. With the exception of samples of aniline colors, made to order by Chas. Seely, chemist, this city, we believe, that all our dyers have hitherto imported their dyes from London, at a cost of more than sixteen dollars per gallon. It is our opinion that every color now produced on textible fabrics, with vegetable and animal substances, may be imitated and profitably superseded with mineral substances. When this is accomplished, a complete revolution will be effected in "color chemistry."—*Scientific American.*

SCENE IN THE LONDON PARKS.

The Serpentine presented a scene on Tuesday night, and it is estimated that there were upwards of 200,000 persons in Hyde Park. It was anticipated that a large number of the Volunteer Rifles would have visited the Serpentine, but it is understood that some communication was made to the head-quarters of the several corps by the authorities, requesting that such a demonstration should not take place, and, in consequence, the numbers were greatly limited. The drive along the Serpentine was for two hours completely blocked with carriages of the nobility and gentry, and along the banks masses of persons were congregated. From the bridge down to the extreme end of the river was one continuous blaze, there being upwards of 50,000 skaters and sliders, nearly all of whom carried lighted torches and performed their evolutions by their light. The centre, as well as near the banks of the river, was lined by several hundred tents, consisting of skating booths, refreshment pavilions, &c. Several displays of fire-works took place upon the ice, and blue, green, and red fires were ignited, which produced an extraordinary effect. Shortly after nine o'clock a large number of tents were lighted up with variegated oil lamps and festoons of Chinese lanterns, and further displays of fire-works took place. The festivities were carried on with the utmost vigor for several hours, but at ten o'clock a large number of persons retired. Several thousands, however, remained upon the ice until a much later period. A young man and young woman fell through the ice, and when rescued were in a state of great exhaustion. The other parks were very much crowded, and there were a few accidents, but nothing of a serious nature occurred.

FOR WHAT A CHILD IS GRATEFUL.

Parents spend a life of toil, in order to leave their children wealth, to secure them social position or other worldly advantages. I do not underrate the worth of these things. Had they not been valuable, there would not have been so many providential arrangements impelling men to seek them. I would not only show that there is something of infinitely greater value, not only to the parent, but to be transmitted to the child. What does the child most love to remember? I never heard a child express any gratification or pride that a parent had been too fond of accumulating money, though the child at that moment was enjoying that accumulation. But I have heard children, though their inheritance had been crippled and cut down by it, say, with a glow of satisfaction on their features, that a parent had been too kind-hearted, too hospitable, too liberal and public-spirited, to be a very prosperous man. A parent who leaves nothing but wealth, or similar social advantages, to his children, is apt to be speedily forgotten.

However it ought to be, parents are not particularly held in honor by children, because of the worldly advantages they leave them. These are received as a matter of course. There is comparatively little gratitude for this. The heir of an empire hardly thanks him who bequeathed it. He more often endeavors, before his time, to thrust him from his throne. But let a child be able to say, my father was a just man, he was affectionate in his home, he was tenderhearted, he was useful in the community, and loved to do good in society, he was a helper of the young, the poor, the unfortunate, he was a man, simple, liberal, upright, devout—and the child's memory cleaves to that parent. He honors him, reveres him, treasures his name and his memory, thinks himself blest in having had such a parent, and the older he grows, instead of forgetting, only reveres and honors and remembers him the more. Here is experience and affection sitting in judgment on human attainments. It shows what is most worth the seeking.—*Ephraim Peabody.*

JENNIE'S CHOICE.

BY MRS. E. H. HOOD.

Jennie Gray was a pretty lass
As e'en you might discover;
And, as pretty lasses have,
Jennie had a lover.

Johnny Burns was tall and straight,
Handsome, too, and clever;
But he was poor and Jennie proud,
And this their lives might sever.

"Ah!" sighed the little maid, "bright gems
Would so well adorn my tresses;
And my form would have an added grace
Arrayed in costly dresses.

"My hands are small, my feet are trim,
E'en as Lady Russell's yonder,
Who lives in that great palace home,
'Mid luxury and splendor.

"And they say she was a country lass,
Of poor and lowly station,
But married rich—ah, me—I'll try
And seek out such good fortune."

So Jennie smiled no more on John,
And he became a stranger;
While rich old Mr. Markham seemed,
From her well set trap, in danger.

Her dimpled cheeks and golden curls,
Her child-like, sweet demeanor!
These drew him in; it sprung at last,
And caught the wealthy banker.

And diamonds brightly gleam to-day,
'Mid Jennie's sunny tresses;
While her form is gracefully arrayed
In silks and velvet dresses.

Her little feet tread stately halls,
Unequalled in their splendor;
And her jewelled fingers shame all toil,
So delicate and tender!

And she is called a happy wife,
Yet, oh! how many like her,
Have found, with gratified desire,
No joy their bosom enter.

Farmer Burns, in his snug little cot,
Knows more of real enjoyment
Than Jennie in her palace—the secret is this:
Johnny is blessed with contentment.

Geneva, N. Y.

WIT AND SENTIMENT.

A Dodge to Catch Green Horns.

Here is a "good dodge," of which let greedy greenhorns beware. A gentleman of prepossessing appearance arrives at a well-patronized country hotel. He drives a fine horse, which he delivers into the hands of the ostler. While the animal is feeding, he takes his ease in the bar room and is soon on terms of familiarity with the other guests. It is soon evident that he has a weakness. He drinks freely, and a few glasses serve to fuddle him. He grows friendly and hilarious; treats generously; and indulges in various extravagances indicative of intoxication.

In the meantime, another traveller drops in, and gravely witnesses his performances. "It's a shame," he says, "to see a well-dressed man behave in that way. He looks like a gentleman—if he was only sober. He has got money, but he will lose it; and he ought to lose it."

Sure enough, the first traveller soon shows symptoms of parting with his funds in the most foolish manner. He would light his cigar with a bank note, but the sober traveller prevents him, with a just rebuke for his folly.

"Come, then," said the tipsy one, "tell you what I'll do. I'll make a bet with any man that's willing. Here's a half-sovereign"—he takes the coin from his pocket, and places it under his heel on the floor—"I'll bet there's a half-sovereign under my heel—hurrah for a wager!"

He gives a drunken whirl on his foot. The half-sovereign slips from under it. The moral traveller, observed by every one except the tipsy man, picks up the coin, and passes it to the bar-tender, with the remark—"'Twould serve him right to bet with him now, and win his money."

At that bait avarice and simplicity easily snap. The inebriate once more stamps his foot on the floor, and offers to bet large sums that there is a half sovereign under his heel. The bet is taken—two or three spectators, willing to turn an honest penny, putting up their money in sums from five to twenty sovereigns. The bar-keeper holds the stakes. Then the drunken man, instantly sobered, seats himself, pulls off his boots, and takes from under his stocking a second half-sovereign. Of course, he pockets the stakes, and he and the moral traveller ride off together.

How it Happened.

A story is told of Dick, a darkey in Kentucky, who was a notorious thief, so vicious in this respect that all the thefts in the neighborhood were charged to him; on one occasion, Mr. Jones, a neighbor of Dick's master, called and said that Dick must be sold out of that part of the country, for he had stolen all his (Mr. Jones') turkeys. Dick's master could not think so. The two, however, went into the field where Dick was at work, and accused him of the theft. "You stole Mr. Jones' turkeys," said the master. "No I didn't 'massa,'" responded Dick. The master persisted. "Well," at length said Dick, "I'll tell you massa, I didn't steal dem turkeys but last night when I went across Mr. Jones' pasture I saw one of our rails on de fence, so I brought home de rail, and confound it when I come to look, dare was nine turkeys on de rail!"

Study of the Face.

A story is told of the great French satirist, which finely illustrates his knowledge of human nature. He was traveling in Germany, in entire ignorance of its language and currency. Having obtained some small change for French coins, he used to pay the coachmen and others in the following manner: Taking a handful of the numismatical specimens from his pocket, he counted them one by one, into the creditor's hand, keeping his eye fixed all the time on the receiver's face. As soon as he perceived the least twinkle of a smile, he took back the last coin deposited in the hand and returned it, with the remainder, to his pocket. He afterwards found that, in pursuing this method, he had not overpaid for anything.

A German at a Bank.

A German, who had three hundred dollars in gold deposited in one of the Western banks, stepped up to the counter, the other day, presented his certificate, and demanded his gold. He was paid, when he said to the banker, "Vot you gif for gold now, eh?" "Five per cent.," was the response. "O, yaw, dat ish goot. I sell you dese for good paper mooish." "All right," was the reply, and three hundred and fifteen dollars in currency was handed the ex-depositor, who took fifteen dollars from his roll of notes, and handed back three hundred dollars, saying: "I deposit dat mit you. You are goot, I sees." And taking his new certificate, he departed with his fifteen dollars premium.

A Shocking Bad Memory.

"Mary, my love, do you remember the text this morning?"

"No, papa, I never can remember the text, I've such a bad memory."

"Mary," said her mother, "did you notice Susan Brown?"

"Oh, yes! What a fright! She had on her last year's bonnet done up, a pea green silk, a black lace mantilla, brown gaiters, an imitation Honiton collar, a lava bracelet, her old ear-drops and such a fan! Forlorn!"

A Prescription.

Abernethy once said to a rich but dirty patient, who consulted him about an eruption, "Let your servant bring you three or four pails of water, and put it into a wash-tub; take off your clothes, get into it, and rub yourself well with soap and a rough towel, and you'll recover." "This advice seems very much like telling me to wash myself," said the patient. "Well," said Abernethy, "it may be open to such a construction."

Degrees of Crime.

The degrees of crime are thus defined: "He who steals a million is only a financier. Who steals a half million is only a defaulter. Who steals a hundred thousand is a rogue. Who steals fifty thousand is a knave. But he who steals a pair of boots or a loaf of bread is a scoundrel of the deepest dye, and deserves to be lynched.

Holding the Plow.

"Didn't you tell me, sir, you could hold the plow?" said a farmer to a green Irishman, whom he had taken on trial. "Arrah, be aisy, now," said Pat. "How the deuce can I hould it, and two horses drawing it away from me? But give it to me in the barn, and be jabers, I'll hould it with anybody!"

Smart Child.

"Eliza, my child," said a prudish old maid to her pretty niece, who would curl her hair in pretty ringlets, "if the Lord had intended your hair to be curled, He would have done it himself." "So he did, Aunty, when I was a baby, but he thinks I am big enough now to curl it myself."

Mountainous.

Old Bundy lived in Allegheny county, and being down in the city, some one said to him: "It is quite a mountainous country where you live, Mr. Bundy, is it not?" "Why, no," said the old man, "it ain't exactly mountainous, but it's a rather hilltaneous country, that's a fact."

SOME graceless scamp has presumed to say that "it is woman, and not her wrongs, that should be re-dressed." The fellow ought to suffer the torment of being invited out to tea, or to a sewing circle.

PUZZLES, &c.

[Written for the Dollar Newspaper—Philada.]

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I am composed of twenty five letters.
My 1 9 13 is an animal.
My 2 3 15 8 is a musical instrument.
My 3 5 19 8 6 is a female name,
My 4 3 22 24 is a gardening tool.
My 5 9 18 15 11 is a river in France.
My 6 4 19 24 is a lake in the United States.
My 7 20 14 13 are mountains in Africa.
My 8 14 4 12 19 21 3 is an island in the Mediterranean Sea.
My 9 23 19 9 20 is a vegetable.
My 10 19 16 19 21 3 8 3 is a lake in South America.
My 11 7 10 17 6 15 is a female name.
My 5 25 14 29 12 is a city in Europe.
My whole is the name of a candidate for the Presidency in 1864.

J. M. O.

West Philadelphia, 1861.

CONUNDRUMS.

When is a negro not a negro? When he's a buttin'.—*St. Louis Republican.*

What is that which ladies look for but never wish to find? A hole in the stocking.

ANSWER TO ENIGMA IN LAST WEEK'S "*Newspaper*:"—

"*Early to bed, and early to rise,
Makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.*"

ANSWER TO RIDDLE.—"*Honey.*"